



SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1990/JAMADIUL THANI 17, 1410 AH

Gulf foes accept Soviet mediation

ATHENS, Jan 12, (Agencies): Both Iran and Iraq announced yesterday that they had accepted a mediation offer from the Soviet Union to help establish a lasting peace in the Gulf.

Tehran Radio, in a dispatch monitored in Athens, said Iran accepted a proposal by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze that the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers should meet in his presence in

Egypt's Middle East News Agency, in a dispatch from Baghdad, quoted Iraqi officials as saying Baghdad also accepted the Soviet proposal. No date for a meeting of the three foreign ministers was immediately announ-

Iran and Iraq have held indirect discussions under United Nations auspices for more than one year, but officials of the two sides have not met face to face since the August 1988 ceasefire that ended eight years of hostilities in the Gulf war.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Vaezi told Tehran Radio on his return to Iran from Moscow yesterday that he met Shevardnadze in the Soviet capital and gave him a positive

He said Shevardnadze made the proposal in a message to Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, and he (Vaezi) flew to Moscow with Velayati's reply. Vaezi did not say when Shevardnadze made the mediation proposal.

Vaezi said the Iranian response was that it would accept any proposal that offered a clear means toward the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 598.

The resolution, which Iran accepted in July 1988, led to the ceasefire between the two Gulf belligerents after eight years of

It also called for talks between the two sides toward establishing a lasting peace in the region, but the mediation efforts of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar foundered because of mutual suspicions on the two

of supporters of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile jammed a hearing hall today

as the former defence minister for-mally denied allegations he was involved in last month's attempt to

overthrow President Corazon

Aquino.

Meanwhile, renegade leaders of the failed coup, which lasted from

Dec 1-9, demanded that Mrs Aquino

and other senior civilian and military

leaders resign to spare the nation

from civil war.

Enrile, fired as defence chief in

1986 after a failed coup attempt by his followers, claimed the allegation

that he was involved in the latest

putsch was part of a witchhunt to eliminate opposition to Mrs Aquino.
The National Bureau of Investigation has recommended that Enrile be

charged with rebellion in connection

with the strongest and bloodiest of

six attempts to topple Mrs Aquino since she took office in the 1986 upris-ing that ousted late president Ferdin-

Today's hearing before a panel of

15 prosecutors gave Enrile a chance to respond. The panel has 10 days to decide whether to indict Enrile. The

senator appeared along with a fellow

defedant — Makati city councilman Bobby Brillante — and lawyers for three others also recommended for

Before the hearing, hundreds of

Enrile supporters appeared outside the hall with placards reading "jus-

tice for Enrile" and denouncing Mrs

Aquino. The hearing was so agitated that at one point, Brillante's attor-

ney, Antonio Coronel, lost his den-

tures while vigorously arguing a

Enrile said he was considering ask-

ing Pope John Paul II to overrule the

cardinal and allow the priest to tes-

In a statement to news organisa-

tions, rebels of the "reform the armed

forces movement-soldiers of the

Filipino people" claimed Mrs Aquino had failed to develop "true

democracy" and must step down,

along with the leaders of the Senate.

Mugabe rated

as best leader

LONDON, Jan 12 (AP): Readers of

the monthly New African have voted

President Robert Mugabe of Zim-

babwe as their favourite African

leader, the magazine reported yester-

day. Mugabe was chosen by 2,328

readers resonding to the magazine's questionnaire, while Kenneth

Kaunda of Zambia and Hosni

Mubarak of Egypt tied for second place with 1,932 votes, it said.

and Marcos.

Iran insisted that Iraqi troops should pull out of some 800 square miles (2000 sq km) of Iranian territory near the central sector border town of Naft Shahr, which the Iraqis occupied just before the ceasefire. Baghdad has ignored the demand.

Iraq, for its part, has demanded the right to begin clearing the disputed Shatt Al Arab estuary that forms the ceasefire line between the two sides in the south, even while the peace talks are in rogress, but Tehran has rejected the demand.

The Shatt is clogged with scores of vessels, big and small, trapped there since the outbreak of the war in September 1980 and hindering an approach to the Iraqi port of Basra from the Gulf.

In Baghdad, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said a meet-ing in Moscow "should address the essential issues in a comprehensive manner," to achieve the destred results.

Mena quoted the Iraqi spokesman as saying Shevardnadze made the proposal last year and Iraq accepted in August, but that the Iranian side had been "dilly dallying to avoid direct negotia-

Weather

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind.
State of sea: Slight to moderate
High water: 2.30 am, 3.00 pm
Low water: 8.00 am, 7.30 pm Sunset: 5.09 pm Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 14°C 57°F Ahmadi: 13°C 55°F

Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 1°C 34°F Ahmadi: 5°C 41°F Failaka: 5°C 41°F

Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwaii: 14°C 57°F Ahmadi: 13°C 55°F Failaka: 13°C 55°F Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 21 per cent Ahmadi: 56 per cent Failaka: 48 per cent

Press censorship may be lifted soon

Parliamentary

door not closed

CAIRO, Jan 12, (Agencies): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah has said Kuwait may soon lift media censorship imposed over three years ago but hinted a return of its dissolved parliament might be a long way off. "A study is being conducted now on lifting press censorship.

You will hear an answer within the next few days," Sheikh Saad told a news conference in Cairo yesterday.

HH the Amir of Kuwait dissolved the country's National Assembly,

suspended parts of the constitution and gave the government new media censorship powers in July 1986 at the height of the Iran-Iraq war. Asked about a possible restoration of parliamentary life following democratic changes in Eastern Bloc countries, the Crown Prince cited a paragraph in the Amir's decree dissolving the house which said the action was temporary.

"The decree stated that the measure did not mean an end to the parliamentary life in the country. This was a commitment on the part of the Amir," the Crown Prince said.

'We in Kuwait believed and still believe in the usefulness of public participation and their role in control and legislation," he said at the end of a four-day visit to Egypt.
"On the basis of this concept,

Kuwait trying to find a formula to avoid a third crisis: Crown Prince

we will work towards finding a formula that prevents Kuwait from being exposed to a third crisis," he added. He was referring to 1986, when

Parliament was suspended, and in 1976, when the assembly was uspended for four years. Sheikh Saad said that within days, decisions related to lifting the censorship imposed on

Kuwait's once freewheeling press when Parliament was dissolved would be announced. Sheikh Saad said in Cairo his country was closely following events in Eastern Europe and

was taking part in a pan-Arab study on their implications. "We have also started preparing a strategy with our (Arab) impacts - political, economic or military - (that) these changes might have on the Arab nation,'

the Prime Minister said. Sheikh Saad said the study would be put to Arab leaders at their next summit.

Sheikh Saad yesterday con-cluded his official visit to Egypt, during which he held talks on expanding bilateral relations and joint ventures.

Sheikh Saad, who arrived here on Monday heading a high-level delegation, said in the press conference that talks with Egyptian leaders focussed on many regional and international issues topped by the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Iran-Iraq situation, the events in Eastern Europe and other issues influencing the stand of the Arab world.

He pointed out that bilateral relations received substantial attention from the two sides leading to signing of several agreements on co-ordination and co-operation in various fields of mutual interest.

Commenting on the purpose (Continued on Page 9)

\$20m jewellery theft Suspect arrested

BANGKOK. Jan 12. (AP): A man who allegedly stole \$20 million worth of jewellery from a royal palace in Saudi Arabia has been arrested, the

national police chief said today. Kirangkrai Tejamoke, 32, admit ted he stole the jewelry from Prince Faisal Bin Fahad's palace in Riyadh while working as a cleaner there last year, police Gen. Sawaeng Theeras-

Sawaeng told a news conference the jewelry belonged to the Prince's consort and was kept in three unlocked safes in her bedroom. He said i... agkrai, who was arrested on Wedneday in a hotel in

the northwestern town of Mae Sot, told police he sold the jewellery for 5 million baht (\$200,000) to gold shops in Bangkok, Lumpang and another



Oman relaxes No rights residence law

Transfer of visa easier

FOREIGNERS seeking jobs in the Sultanate of Oman, will soon find the employment process to be far easier going with the introduction of a number of regulations. The new relaxed code of employment is to be brought into effect by the middle of

The new relaxed regulations encompass the following: barriers on the transfer of sponsorships of foreign labour between Omani sponsors have been scrapped. Foreigners who enter Oman on visit visas can seek jobs and change their visit visas into work permits without the need to leave the country. Foreign labourers are also entitled to bring their parents to live with them in Oman during the validity of their work permit

Among other relaxations aimed primarily at promoting tourism and internal trade, the Omani government has scrapped the condition for foreign businessmen or tourists visit-ing Oman to find local sponsors. With the introduction of the new rules, a two-week visit visa can be obtained from Omani embassies in the country of the intended visitor. In some cases, businessmen and tourists

can obtain visit visas from border posts and others can obtain a 24-hour transit visa.

A previous condition requiring foreigners who had worked in Oman and left to stay for two years outside the country before returning to Oman, has also been repealed. According to the new law, such foreigners have now only to cancel their previous sponsorship and obtain a work permit in the same profession.

Authorities have further permit-

ted foreigners working in Oman to get their work residence transferred to another sponsor without the need to spend at least one year in Oman. Servants of Omani diplomats abroad can enter the country along-with their employers without the

need to obtain visas. Dependents of expatriates working in Oman can now stay in Oman even after they attain the age of 18. The age limit for foreign labourers allowed to enter Oman has been reduced from 25 to 21 years.

Businessmen who obtain visas to

visit Oman can now bring their (Continued on Page 9)

violations:

RIYADH, Jan 12, (Kuna): A Saudi responsible source yesterday called on the Amnesty International to make a distinction between implementation of rules in line with the Islamic sharia and its teachings

and man-made legislation. reported by the organisation on the so-called human rights violations in

the kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He told the Saudi Press Agency that "information that was published by the organisation is inaccurate. More than that, it is exaggerated and based on stories which are not acceptable to be dependable in such stand because it is liable to distortion and tendentious ploting from suspicious sources."

The source denied presence of and affirmed that all cases are tackled in line with the Islamic sharia by highly learned judges in Fiqh and knowledge and that the cases, are then submitted to the supreme judicial council, which is considered the highest judicial authority in the kingdom, comprising a number of Islamic sharia and Figh men. The source underlined that the

Islamic sharia does not distinguish in its ruling between colour, race, faction or religion but considers all as equal, SPA reported.

NEWSWATCH

No immediate threat: British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said that she did not see any "immediate threat to the position of the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, despite the enormous size of the task facing him."

In an interview with the Daily Telegraph news-paper published here on Friday, Thatcher said "I think he is managing things very well indeed." Paying tribute to the Soviet President, she pointed

out that "he is a very dominating personality, knows the magnitude of the task, knows what peoples' aspirations are, but knows that the old system did not work and had collapsed." (Kuna) Christians march: Thousands of Christians

staged peaceful protest marches in four of Nigeria's 21 states on Thursday against a shake-up in the military government which they said favoured "There were thousands, but it was peaceful," an

official in the office of Kaduna state governor Abdullahi Mukhtar told Reuters by telephone on

Friday's newspapers reported demonstrations

organised by the Christian Association of Nigeria in Kaduna and three other predominantly Muslim nor-thern states. (Reuter)

Romanian govt besieged: Thousands of chanting anti-communist protesters besieged Romania's provisional government on Friday, forcon top of an armoured car.

Iliescu pleaded for silence during chaotic scenes in front of the Foreign Ministry, headquarters of the National Salvation Front (NSF) that has ruled since the Dec 22 overthrow of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu (Reuter)

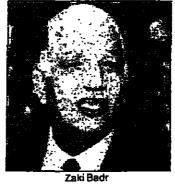
Polis set for June: Czechoslovakia will hold its first free elections in more than 40 years on June 6, the main opposition group Civic Forum said on

Friday.

Civic Forum, at the forefront of popular upheavals in November that broke four decades of communist domination in Czechoslovakia, has been involved in round-table talks with other political groups on plans

for the elections. (Reuter)

Mubarak sacks hardline interior minister after opposition criticism



of Manila. (AP)

defence department.

House of Representatives and the

to elect a new leader, not from the

present crop of rotten, traditional

politicians who lack the political will

and moral authority to institute gen-

uine reforms," the statement said.

"The Filipino people are entitled

Enrile, surrounded by a battery of lawyers, gives a thumbs up sign to his supporters during the start of the pre-trial

proceedings. (Reuter wirephoto)

Enrile denies coup role

omic crisis and result in the suppression of civil rights.

(610 miles) southeast of Manila, the report said.

election campaigners for President Corazon Aquino.

Threat of struggle: A Filipino general said on Friday be would be

willing to lead a guerrilla war against military dissidents if they managed to topple President Corazon Aquino and seize power.

Brig. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, chief of the national capital region defence command, also warned that a military takeover would create an econ-

During a symposium, Biazon was asked whether he would be willing to lead an underground struggle if the reform the armed forces movement,

leaders of last month's failed coup, ever toppled Aquino.

"If I am not dead, yes," Biazon replied. "If it is a naked grab for power and changing of government outside of the constitution, I don't think I will be alone." (AP)

Women give birth during gunbattle: Two women who gave birth during a clash between government troops and Muslim rebels in the southern Philippines decided to name their babies for weapons used in

the guobattle, the military reported on Friday.

Bazooka and Armalite, both boys, were born Jan 7 amid heavy gunfire between the troops and the rebels of the Moro National Liberation Front in Lutayan, a town in Sultan Kudarat province, about 975 kilometres

The report said the mothers began experiencing labour pains as soon as the 15-minute firefight began. Both gave birth on the spot and were brought to a nearby clinic after the shooting stopped. (AP)

Marcos supporter gets life: A court on Thursday sentenced a

former provincial governor and staunch supporter of the late President Marcos to life in prison for the 1986 kidnapping and murder of three

The court said Orlando Dulay, former governor of the northern Philippine province of Quirino, kidnapped the three a day before the Feb 7, 1986, presidential election. They were found dead days later.

The three — Francisco Laurella, Fernando Pastor and Fernando Pastor Jr — belonged to the United Democratic Organization, the party under which Accepts

under which Aquino challenged Marcos.

Court records said Dulay and his bodygnards abducted the three men in the town of Diffun in quirino, about 200 kilometres (125 miles) north

CAIRO, Jan 12, (Reuter): President Hosni

Meanwhile, the Philippine armed forces chief dismissed widespread

speculation about a new army

mutiny as "coup fever" but a ren-egade ex-brigadier said President Aquino would be ousted and a

military-civilian ruling council set

Mubarak sacked Interior Minister Zaki Badr, the hammer of Egypt's dissident Muslim fun-

damentalists, today.

A presidential decree named Mohammed Abdel-Halim Moussa, governor of the central Egypt province of Assiut, to replace Badr.

A stocky former police general, Badr was the target of a car bomb assassination attempt in

Cairo last month. He escaped unhurt. Long a target of opposition criticism, Badr was seen as the strong arm of Mubarak's goverument, responsible for rounding up thousands of Muslim militants and alleged leftists during

He made no effort to conceal his hatred of fundamentalists. In an interview with the Paris-based newspaper Al Watan Al Arabi he said of militants calling for Islamic law (sharia): "I see

His sacking indicated Mubarak was heeding mounting opposition to Badr's tough methods and blunt language. The new interior minister said his appointment did not mean a change in Egypt's security

them as mad dogs - with all respect to dogs."

"It is natural for the Interior Ministry to have a constant line ... no change will happen because

of a change in persons," he said in a brief statement to reporters on arrival at the ministry to take up his new role.

"The opposition parties are part of the system we must listen to other opinions," he said in

reply to a question. Asked whether he would reconsider the

detention of political detainees under special powers in force since 1981, Moussa replied: This is not the time for that."

On Tuesday, the opposition Socialist Labour Party's newspaper, Al Shaab, published a frontpage report saying Badr had insulted prominent public figures with abusive language.

It said it had taped speeches by Badr at two recent rallies, in which he used obscene epithets against opposition politicians, writers, lawyers, ournalists and Muslim scholars. Badr took an uncompromising stance against

the Muslim Brotherhood, a moderate group of fundamentalists tolerated by the government and allied with secular opposition parties.

Al Shaab quoted Badr on Tuesday as saying members of the group, whom he called

saboteurs, should be killed. "My dialogue with those using weapons is through weapons," he told a newspaper in

February last year.

train death squads'

COLOMBO, Jan 12, (AP): Opposi-tion leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike claimed that the death squads have been trained in an army camp to eliminate politicians who oppose the government.

They have been instructed to eliminate opposition political cadres, polling agents, family members and close associates of members of parliament," Bandaranaike told Parliament during debate on a noconfidence motion against President Ranasinghe Premadasa's govern-

Bandaranaike's Sri Lanka Freedom Party and three other par-ties introduced the motion, which was expected to fail during an expec-

Premadasa's United National
Party holds 124 of parliament's 225
seats. The four opposition parties
have 84 seats. Most other legislators said they would not support the no-

The motion accused the government of failing to restore peace, per-mitting and encouraging vigilantes to kidnap, torture and kill civilians, bankrupting the economy and ignor-

Industries Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe, a member of Premadasa's party, attempted to res-pond to Bandaranaike's charges, but deputy speaker Gamini Fonseka told him to wait his turn.

Bandaranaike, a former prime minister, claimed death squads received weapons training at the Ganemulla army base, 20 kilometres (12 miles) northeast of Colombo. She claimed they were provided with fake army identification cards and hit

"This conspiracy against the democratic opposition, if not thwarted, will pave the way for a one-party dictatory state," she said.

She claimed thousands of her Freedom Party members had been arrested, abducted or murdered by "killer squads' in counter-subversive

For the past two and half years, the government has been drawn ever deeper into a battle with Sinhalese extremists of the People's Liberation Front, which began assassinating government officials for trying to make peace with insurgents from the Tamil minority.

Singh under pressure to add power to persuasion,

NEW DELHI, (Reuter): Ir dian leader Viswanath Pratap Singh celebrates six weeks in office on Saturday, acclaimed for his democratic style but under pres-sure to wield power against

separatist militancy.

He has set himself the highrisk task of ending Sikh separatist killings in Punjab with per-

suasion.

Today the state's Tribune

newspaper warned him: "Goodwill is not enough." Singh took office on December 2 after voters ousted the Con-

gress Party which had ruled India for 40 of the country's 42 years since independence. Charging Congress with corruption and autocracy, Singh offered clean rule by consensus. He has persuaded diplomats,

political scientists and the Bom-

bay Stock Exchange — whose index is rising steadily — that his National Front government can hold power with just 144 of the 545 seats in the Lok Sabha (lower house of Parliament).

The political scientists credit

him with translating Indian government from autocracy to democracy. The diplomats credit him with acumen. His polarised allies - communists and Hindu

results of the exercise.

The government has to do some-

thing concrete," said Jagmohan

Foreign Minister Inder

Kumar Gujral, a key figure in the

government's efforts to win over Sikhs, said the rally's aim was to

"mobilise support from the peo-ple of Punjab to quash secession-

Gujral, who was elected to

parliament from a constituency

in Punjab, is a Hindu widely res-

About 20 leaders of different

political parties attended the

meeting held in Ludhiana, an

industrial town known for its

Puniab, the Akali Dal, and for-

mer prime minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party, the largest

opposition group, stayed away. However, Akali Dal leader Simranjit Singh Mann was

among those who received Singh

Mann said he was at the air-

The former police officer, who

was elected to parliament in the

same balloting that propelled

Singh into the prime minister's

post, was released from prison

last month. Mann had been

jailed for five years but never brought to trial on charges of sedition and involvement in Mrs

Gandhi's assassination.

■ A leader of Bodo tribesmen

waging a separatist campaign in the hills of northeastern India

vowed today that his followers

would muster a 500,000-strong

anything less than a separate homeland for us," said Upendra Kumar Bharma, a leader of the

homeland movement that had

simmered for two decades before

Bharma and 15 other leaders

of the predominantly animist

tribe met yesterday with govern-ment officials in New Delhi to

press demands for a separate

state, the demands were rejected.

ference in New Delhi that the

proposed 500,000-member

volunteer force would be trained

with the sole aim of achieving a

He did not say whether the

force would be armed or what

training it would receive, but

added, "it will be a very powerful

Bharma told a news con-

turning violent in 1987.

"We will not compromise for

volunteer force.

field because, "it is courtesy to

at an airfield near Ludhiana.

receive the prime minu

he comes to your house."

woolen garments factories. But an influential Sikh party of

Singh, another Sikh.

pected among Sikhs.

ist efforts.

right-wingers --- pledge to credit him with parliamentary votes. But the politicians and the

newspapers that helped to push Congress and former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi from electoral grace are becoming impatient over unabated violence in two of India's most stratregic states.

More than 2,000 people died in 1989 alone in a Sikh campaign for an independent homeland in

Punjab, whose land feeds many of the nation's 810 million peo-

In India's only Muslimmajority state, Jammu and Kashmir, armed secessionists have wrought near-anarchy. Both states border Pakistan.

Singh, ruling out independence or secession, has made peace by consensus his priority. Yesterday he handed out con-

Singh offers concessions

Bodo tribe leader vows to continue separatist campaign

cessions to Sikh hardliners at a public rally and mingled with Punjabi crowds 24 hours after a

bomb had killed the state's most controversial police chief. The Tribune said: "A stick and carrot approach is, indeed, wise, but in the government's policy only the carrot is visible... feeling is gaining ground among people

that the stick vanished with the

The 1984 raid, which sparked the revenge assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi later that year, failed to end the Sikh insurrection. At least 1,820 people were

killed in the state last year, mostly in hit-and-run attacks by the militants.

The rebellion was launched in 1982, after the militants claimed Sikhs were being

discriminated against by the Hindus, India's majority community.

"When blood flows in Punjab, it is the country's heart that bleeds," said Singh, a

Hindu. "I have not come here with a magic wand. The solution is not in the corridors of

coercive methods be put (to) an end, and security of life and property and respect for,

A resolution adopted at the end of the three-hour rally said: "Violence and the use of

previous government."

New Delhi but in the wheatfields of Punjab."

human rights for all must be exercised.

The right-wing prop of Singh government, the Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) agreed.

The goodwill gestures of the government haven't beet positively responded to, general secretary Krishnan Lal Sharma told Reuters. "Terrorists who believe in the law of bullets should be dealt with by a heave



Pakistani military officials inspect the debris of a Soviet-made Scud missile fired

Missile attack

Afghan Scud lands near Wah

ISLAMABAD, Jan 12, (AP): A mis-sile slammed into a field about two miles (four kilometres) from Pakistan's largest complex of ordnance factories, a government official said yesterday. "No injuries or damages were reported."

The missile landed just outside of the city of Wah, located about 30 miles (48 kilometres) west of Islamahad and about 100 miles (160 kilometres) east of the Afghanistan

There were conflicting reports about whether the missile actually exploded, and there were unconfirmed reports that it was fired by Afgh-

Reports published in several English-language daily newspapers claimed the missile, which the Defence Ministry has refused to identify, failed to explode upon

impact.
Witnesses in Wah disagreed.
Nusrat Ali said: "We heard a loud blast and there was so much dust in the air everything was black." Another government official stationed near Wah, speaking on condition of anonymity, also claimed the missile exploded.

The ordnance complex which is wah's only industry, produces most of Pakistan's small arms. The Pakistan government is not

saying where the missile came from. But an army official, who insisted on anonymity, indicated it was fired from Afghanistan. He also said it was

From their headquarters in Pakistan, Afghan anti-communist rebels Afghanistan's ruling Marxist gover-

Dhaka rejects bill to cut special powers

sain Muhammad Ershad's Jatiya Party yesterday rejected an opposition demand to withdraw a law which empowers the government to detain political opponents and ban

walked out of Parliament when governing party members rejected the proposal.

The proposal was made by Bazlul Huda, a member of the Freedom Party, who said the law was repressive and was mostly used to stifle opposition.

DHAKA, Jan 12, (AP): Legislators from President Hus-

"A civilised nation can't have a black and repressive law like the Special Powers Act," he said. The law empowers the government to detain anyone without charges for at least three months. It can also be used to ban the publication of newspapers and magazines without showing cause.
Inteior Minister Mahmudul Hasan, said the act was

'essential to safeguard national interests."

Ershad, a former army general, took power in a bloodless coup in 1982. He was elected president in 1986 and his Opposition parties accuse Ershad of rigging both elec-

■ Government employees have been ordered to give up ar membership in two international social and service clubs, the Lions and the Rotary.

Officials and staffers of any government office or government-funded organisation must surrender their Rotary and Lions memberships immediately, according to a government order dated Jan 3.

LUDHIANA, India, Jan 12, (AP): Prime Minister V.P. Singh, seeking to stop Sikh seccessionism in Punjab, offered key concessions yesterday but said he did not have a "magic wand" to end violence in the troubled state. Singh said Sikh deserters from the Indian Army would be given employment in other government organisations and the detention of jailed Sikhs would be reviewed. He was speaking at an all-party public rally in the Punjab city of Ludhiana. The rally was organised by Singh's six-week-old government as part of its movement to restore Hundreds of Sikh soldiers mutinied in 1984 when the government ordered Indian Army troops to attack the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine, and expell armed Sikhs. The deserters' rehabilitation has been a key demand of the community. But many listeners in crowd of 100,000 were sceptical about the Rajiv "V.P. Singh's latest rally is just a ritual. The government itself knows nothing will be solved. Can anything be solved by such rallies?" asked Bhinder Singh, a Sikh resident of Ludhiana. rival "The large crowd shows peo-ple have faith in V.P. Singh. But if they keep on holding rallies like that nobody will come next time.

case

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's re-election to Parliament has been challenged in court by the man he defeated in an election marred by widespread violence and fraud char-

action.

Following an investigation of the Nov 24 voting in the Rajivs' Amethiconstituency, the Election Commissional Comm ordered a partial repoll in the poor rural district 100 kms (60 miles) south-

The re-poil was ordered after Raj-mohan Gandhi and his Janata Dai Party complained of widespread voter fraud and latimidation by supporters of Rajiv Gandhi and his Congress

a prominent local Janata Dal leader was seriously wounded when he was shot in the stomach in an altercation with Congress Party workers on elec-

In the final count, Rajiv Gandhi got 270,471 votes to Rajmohan Gandhi's

most violent in India's 42 years of independence. At least 140 people died during five days of voting.

The Congress party failed to win enough seats to retain courtol of the government, and Rajiv Gandhi was relegated to the role of opposition

In India's new National Front gover-ment said today it would support demands against the Union Carbide Corporation for more compensation

Law Minister Dinesh Goswami told reporters the former government had no authority to make a settlement "which extinguished all rights of the "which extinguish affected victims." ■ Ganesau, the rogue monkey sen-

tenced to death for bing a girl, has won a reprieve although his owner may face criminal charges, news reports said today.

files

widespread violence and fraud charges, news reports said yesterday.

Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi, filed a petition Wednesday in Lucknow claiming the former prime minister's campalga workers resorted to terror, bribery and abuse of power during November's halloting, according to the reports.

The two Gandhis are not related. No date was given for further court action.

paper said today. east of Lucknow.

how" Mandela was to be freed. The newspaper said Thatcher believed his release

Ten children were among 13 peo-ple burnt to death in feuding between

Police said today six boys, four girls and three women were killed when a mob set alight two houses in Cottonlands township near Durban.

Two arrests were made. The many townships spread over the lush Natal hills have been torn by fighting between the Zulu-based inkatha Movement and members of the

anti-apartheid coalition. Police did not say which group was responsible for the cottonlands attack, one of the worst in fighting which has claimed the lives of more

than 2,000 people in three years.

Residents of a nearby Indian township said trouble had been simmer-ing for several months and householders were leaving the cottonlands area because further clashes were

V.P. Singh (left) being received by Sikh leader Simranjit Singh Mann at Ludhiana, Punjab (Reuter wirephoto).

Thatcher plans visit

South Africa must free Mandela first

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): Prime Minister Mar- could allow her to visit South Africa later this year. garet Thatcher hopes to be able to visit South Africa thing that hinders, but only to help...but I would nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, a British news-

In an interview with the Daily Telegraph, Thatcher said "the only question is precisely when and

In South Africa, there is strong speculation President F.W. de Klerk will free Mandela within weeks.

black gangs vying to control town-ships in South Africa's Natal

United Democratic Front (UDF)

Witnesses said other victims in Cottonlands included a man who had his hands chopped off.

"People are scared to walk in the streets, children are even threatened on the way home from school," one

Mandela meets activists

dela was still in jail.

"It would enable me to go there," Thatcher was

Thatcher last visited South Africa in 1973 when

she was Education Minister. She has in the past

ruled out a trip there as prime minister while Man-

'Une does not want to do an

Release uncertain

CAPE TOWN, Jan 12, (AP): Black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela doesn't know when he will be freed from prison, said the leader of a lawyers' group who met with him yesterday. Mandela has been holding a series of meetings with anti-apartheid activists.

from throughout the country as expectations rise that he will free within a few Mandela has been in prison since 1962, when he was sentenced to five years for

leaving the country illegally and organising an illegal strike by blacks. While serving that sentence he was convicted in 1964 of sabotage and plotting to overthrow the white government and sentenced to life in prison.

"He does not know when he's going to be released," said Pious Langa, president of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, who led a delegation meeting with Mandela for five hours. delegation meeting with Mandela for five hours.



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Campaign to dump Sununu Fanatically loyal to Bush

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (Kuna): John Sununu, White House staff chief and the highest-ranking Arab-American in any administration, may be the target of a newspaper

campaign to dump him.

The instrument was a lengthy, front-page Washington Post article quoting unnamed "associates," politicians and "critics." (Sununu himself was little heard from, though the paper said it had conducted an hour-long

Sumunu's opponents described the chief of staff as too combative, impulsive, inflexible, ideological and fanatically loyal to President George Bush—even to the point f misleading reporters.

A "senior White House official" said of Sununu, "he is

so loyal to George Bush, or so committed to defending the Bush position, that he leaps instantly to his defence at all even when issue deserved re-examination. The Post itself strongly implied Sununu, in office for a

year, wielded too much power and influence over the "Although he attempts to mask the extent of his role, Summu is deeply involved in doemstic policy-making, and is one of the two most powerful advisors in the sphere along with budget director Dick Darman, the Post

It quoted Rep. Vinn Weber (R-Minn), who said in the Reagan years specific issues were tackled by specific high-

ranking White House officials. But now, "when you ask how to influence decision-making in the White House, it's always the same answer: Sununu."

The paper, obviously questioning Sununu's balance and fairness, also stated, "officials said Sununu is reluctant to acknowledge his role out of concern that he not be viewed

as an honest broker who is not taking sides."

On Sunaunu's relations with the media; the Post accused

him of deliberately spreading falsehoods. In his enthusaism to be President Bush's defender and advocate, Sununu has sometimes given misleading information to reporters when it suited his interests," it said. It cited Sumunu's saying the US had no idea who was involved in a Panamanian coup plot last October, denying he had once planned to enter the Massachuse natorial race, and saying Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had not intentions of holding superpower

The Post also charged the "on-the fly" management tyle of Sununu and the too-loose structure he allows at the White House means little important work gets done.
"Many officials and politicians ... said that Sumunu,
while aggressive and intelligent, has provided little overall political strategy for the President ... and that Bush needs more effective and focused direction - particularly in plotting and carrying out his legislative goals," the Post

The Ginza: priciest street in the world

NEW_YORK, Jan 12, (AP): With \$675, you could buy some nice things on The Ginza, Tokyo's glittery shopping district.
But if you're looking to rent

some commercial space there, that \$675 will get you one square Leot (0.09 square metres) for a year, according to a private survey of the world's priciest

The Ginza topped the list for the second straight year, Huberth and Peters Inc., a commercial real estate firm, reported Thursday.

Second

Moving into second place was Nathan Road-Queens road in Hong Kong, bumping New York's East 57th street down to third. Another Asian thoroughfare, Orchard Road in Singapore, replaced Toronto's Bloor Street in the top 10. New York continued to have the most streets on the list, with

The top 10: 1. The Ginza, Tokyo, \$675; 2. Nathan Road — Queens Road, Hong Kong, \$575; 3. East 57th Street, New York, \$550; 4. Fifth Avenue, New York, \$500; 5. Madison Avenue, New York, \$400; 6. Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, Galifornia, \$275; 7. Lexington Avenue, New York City, \$225; 8. Bond Street, London, \$200; 9. Rue du Faubourg, Paris, \$175; 10. Orchard Road, Singapore,

"If there's a common denominator in the most expensive streets, it's that they almost always contain designer names and upscale shops," said Michael Hirschfeld, chief marketing officer of Huberth and Peters.

"This is indicative of what has happened on the retail scene in 1989 — the world class shops have done extremely well while many less distinctive retailers have had their problems," he said.

Hirschfeld said there were several streets that resemble the upscale top 10, but have rents below the others.

They include Michigan Avenue, Chicago; Champs Elysee, Paris; Via Condotti, Rome; Regent Street, London; Newberry Street, Boston; Union Square, San Francisco; Columbus Avenue, New York; Worth Avenue, Palm Beach, California, Bloor Street, Toronto; and Rue du Rhone, Geneva.

al



Competitors hopping mad

A frog importer insisted on Thursday he would enter his giant African frogs in a famed California jumping contest despite protests from other competitors, including a joking threat to check the invaders for steriods.

environment.

But Any Kottman, a US importer of exolic birds, reptiles and amphibians, said on Thursday he intends to enter frogshe imports from Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea in Other owners of smaller American frogs said they would try to keep the Africans out of the contest on grounds that the May 17-20 contest. (Reuter Wirephoto)

Returns lost bonds though hard-up

Millionaire for half an hour

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): A hard-up surveyor found four million pounds (\$6.6million) in a gutter outside London's stock exchange and returned the fortune without a second thought.

Martin Ritchie, forced to sell his car to cut his debts, became a millionaire for half an hour on Tuesday when he found the wad of bearer-bond certificates which can be cashed with no questions asked. After he returned them to brokers Rowe and Pitman, 23-year-old Ritchie has no regrets.

"I am not thinking I should have done a runner (fled)," he told reporters. Tsuppose I have been brought up honest.

A city stockbroker commonted: If I had found them I would have been off. Instead, Ritchie returned to his one-bedroom flat in north London with a magnum of champagne from Rowe and Pitman.

Grammy awards live on **Feb 21**

the golieth frogs could escape and disrupt the California

Jan 12. (Agencies): Don Henley's:
"The End of The Innocence" carried four Grammy nominations yesterday and Bette Midler, Bonnie Raitt, Tom Petty, U-2 and Billy Joel drew al awards show.

The awards ceremony will be broadcast live Feb 21 at 8 pm (0100 GMT) from the Shrine Audit in Los Angeles. The show will be oduced for the 20th time by Pierre

ated for album of the year, and the title track won the nod for record of the year. The single was nominated for song of the year, a writer's award, and Henley also was nominated for male rock performance.

Miss Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings" was nominated for

rd of the year, song of the year and female pop vocal performance. The rock band Fine Young Can als was nominated for best album

for "The Raw And The Cooked." Contenders for best new artist were Neneh Cherry, Indigo Girls, Milli Vanilli, Soul II Soul and Tone-

by producer Quincy Jones, a 19-time Grammy award winner, and Olivia Newton-John, winner of four Grammys, at a morning news con-

National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, amounced that four musicians will be given lifetim achievement awards at the February ceremony, Crooner Nat King Cole and pianist Vladimir Horowitz will be recognised posth-mously. Miles Davis and Paul McCartney are expected to per-form when they receive their

Former Beatles drummer Ringo Starr received a nomination for his country single "Act Naturally" with Buck Owens.

With all three surviving Beatles receiving good reasons to attend the awards ceremonies, speculation bubbled over the possibility that

they might perform as a group.

A spokeswoman for the academy was not able to confirm ru that producers plan to ask McCartney, Harrison and Starr to remite

In addition to "The End of the Innocence," "We Didn't Start the Fire" and "Wind Beneath My nders for song of the Wings," conte year - awarded to the son were "Don't Know Much," recorded by Linda Ronstadt and Aaron Neville, and "The Living Years," recorded by Mike and The

"Batman," which demolished movie box office records, was nominated for both Prince's soundtrack album (best pop male vocal performance) and for Danny Eff-

man's instrumental score album. Greene said the nominees represented 113 different record ies — a strong indication that the "big six" record companies are not "taking over" the industry. About 6,000 academy members will vote on 388 nominees in 77 egories to determine the winners.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

WEST BERLIN: Instead of cement Barr zinged as a 'bowling alley reject' and barbed wire, environmentalists and city planners have suggested turning the former no-man's land Blackwell list of fashion frumps along the Berlin Wall into a city

park to help preserve the native The East German Ost Berliner Zeitung daily quoted East Berlin environmentalist Thomas Tembardt as saying the area was an ideal stopover and breeding spot for Roseanne Barr, Demi Moore and Kim Basinger led Mr. Blackwell's 30th annual list of worst-dressed

chains," siad Blackwell,

celebrities Wednesday, while praise went to Geena Davis, Liza Minnelli, Barbara Bush and Princess He said the barren area, known The acid-tongued critic also flung 1989 fashion darts at Princess Anne, Emily Lloyd, Cher, Daryl Hannah and Paula Abdul and gave a shared dishonfor 28 years as the "death strip" until the Nov 9 opening of the wall, should be turned into "a unique

living space." "Let's give the wall flowers a chance," he said. (UPI)

fauna and flora.

WASHINGTON: A foot-long rat dubbed Willard ate the innards of a \$93,000 Xerox machine in which he was living on Capitol Hill and killed the photocopier, congressional workers said.

Willard, as he was known by office workers, was later tracked down by exterminators and succumbed to poison.

The replace taxpayers back \$107,000 less the

\$10,000 trade-in on the scrap metal Willard left behind.

Lyme Richardson, office manager for the house legislative counsel's office, said Thursday that for several weeks before the huge machine ground to a halt, workers noticed that something was chewing up the computer and telephone cables in the office, and food left out overnight was disappearing. Staffers and cleaning personnel working late at night occasionally could not get him. (UPI)

NEW YORK: Michelle Pfeiffer has been chosen best actress and Beau Bridges best supporting actor by the National Society of Film Critics for their work in The Fabricus Baker

Boys. "Baker Boys," the story of two pianist-brothers who add a woman singer to their nightclub act, also won the best Cinematography
Award Sunday for the work of
Michael Ballhaus.

Drugstore Cowboy, an independent film about a small group of drug addicts who steal from pharmacies, was voted best film of 1989 by the society, which comprises 39 critics of major national publications. Its director, Gas Van Sant Jr, was voted best director. Its screenplay was also cited.

Daniel Day-Lewis was chosen best actor for his portrayal in My Left Foot of Christy Brown, who overcame cerebral palsy and poverty to become a noted Irish artist and writer.

Anjelica Houston was picked best

Enemies, A Love Story, based on a novel by Isaac Bashevis singer. (AP)

suburb of Calabasas on Monday. A rifle was near the body.

TRENTON, New Jersey: The New Jersey legislature says that the stars of professional wrestling are entertainers and not athletes. The state assembly voted 44-4 Monday to approve a bill that would reduce the regulation on those growling, scowling giants by removing professional wrestling from the jurisdiction of New Jersey Athletic Commission.

our to Madonna and Sandra Bernhard.

Model-actress Grace Jones won "Fashion Fiasco

of the Year" for an outfit blackwell described as "Darth Vader's S-and-M fantasy in a bird cage."

Athletic Commission.

The bill, previously passed by the New Jersey Senate, awaits action by Governor Thomas H. Rean.

Supporters, including the World Wrestling Federation, say the measure would reduce the overhead of promoting a wrestling exhibition.

New Jersey, and therefore make in New Jersey, and therefore make it easier for fans to see such wrestlers as Hulk Hogan and Rowdy Roddy Piper in person. (AP)

SAN JOSE, California: Administrators had to tear down a huge \$10,000 multilingual welcome banner hoisted over the city library walkway because of misspellings and one embarrassingly poor

The 30-foot-high (9-m) banner carried greetings in 27 languages, but the intended Filipino message of velcome actually meant "Some of the mistakes were ours,

and some of them were typos," senior Librarian K. Christie Vogel said Thursday. "There was a beck of a lot of scurrying around when we found out." (UPI)

LOS ANGELES: Lineary Cresby, 51-year-old son of Bing Crusby, committed suicide with a single gunshot wound to his head, a coroner's spokesman said on Wednesday.
Friends said Crosby had fought

alcoholism and depression. They said the first two of his three marriages ended in divorce and he was separated from his third wife. His body was found by a friend in his anartment in the Los Angeles

Miss Jackson, a pop singer and sister of Michael Jackson, will be the "Cher For The 90's" who is "more fashion freak than biker chie ... in leather and

Crosby was the youngest of four sons by Bing Crosby's marriage to Dixie Lee Crosby who died in 1952. Bing Crosby had two sons and a daughter by his second marriage, to Kathrya Crosby, and died in Spain in 1977 after collapsing while playing golf. (Reuter)

BELMONT, Michigane Lawrence Geinso has been fascinated with the Parthenon for 40 years, but he was unable to afford to a trip to see the famed temple in Athens, Greece. So

he built his own. Geluso, 76, made a nearly exact model of the building as it was supposed to have looked originally. The model, made of curly maple instead of marble, is about 5 feet (1.52 metres) long and 27 inches (68.6 centimetres) wide, on a scale of 1-to-48.

The retired carpenter, who became fascinated with the Parthenon when he saw an artist's rendering in a magazine 40 years ago, began work on his replica in August 1988 in a workshop behind his home, and spent more than 1,500 hours on it. (AP)

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania: Glory, the US civil war movie starring Matthew Broderick and Morgan Freeman, has passed muster as authentic in its depiction of a regiment of black soldiers. Russ Pirtchard, a firearms expert at Philadelphia's civil war library

and museum, said he and anoth civil war expert, flag collector Stan Smallen, found "extraordinarly minor" Îlaws during a preview Friday. History buffs often have complained about the lack of authenticity in the treatment of the civil war on television and in the

"It's an absolute incredible movie," Pritchard said.

dumpy and frumpy, "Cher to a "bag of tatooed bones in a sequined slingshot," Miss Hannah to a "Vegas Venus on steroids," Miss Abdul to a "fashion gypsy (who) dances in the light (and) dresses in the dark." and Madonna-Bernhard to "... vampy, trampy ... and cartoon campy."

Joining the list of "fabulous fashion independents" were Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Barrara Walters, Angela Lansbury, Tina Brown, Ivana Trump and Jacqueline Onassis.

Television's miss Barr was zinged as a "bowling alley reject," former brat-packer Miss Moore was "a

spandexed 'nightmare on Willis Street,' " and Bat-

man's miss Rasinger was a "parading peep-show (who) should be banished to the batcave."

Blackwell reduced Princess Anne to "lumpy,

The combat sequences are the best. I've seen in a movie about the

> would call the background props, they're all great." (AP) AMSTERDAM: "Stuffy" a seven-year-old tab by car, has finally managed to 'ck his beroin ddiction - ith a little help from

19th century," he said. "All the uniforms, the accounterments, the tack on the horses, even what I

his friends. The cat had been injected with the drug by his addict owner for several

Neighbours, alarmed by Stuffy's unsteady gait and dilated pupils, alerted volunteers from the cat in need charity in the northern Dutch

village of Lauwersziji.
"We gave him valum and a
barbiturate for three months,
gradually reducing the doses," said

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a charity spokesman. He said Stuffy was now completely cured and had gained weight but his fur remained thin and

scabby.

The cat would not be returned to its owner, he added. (Reuter)

NEW YORK: The National Board of Review, the United States' oldest film award organisation, Wednesday named Warner Brothers' Driving Miss Daisy the

best picture of 1989. NBR's annual awards, given since 1917, are considered a preview of the Hollywood Oscar awards, which often have been identical to the board's. "Driving Miss Daisy" is the recently released film version of an off Broadway play and stars Jessica Gaady and Morgan

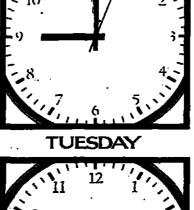
The best foreign film award went to a French picture, The Story of Women. The board named NBC's Ree vs

Wade as the best film made for television and gave CBS' Lonesome Dove the best TV miniseries award.

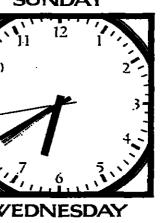
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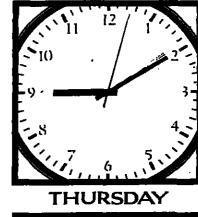
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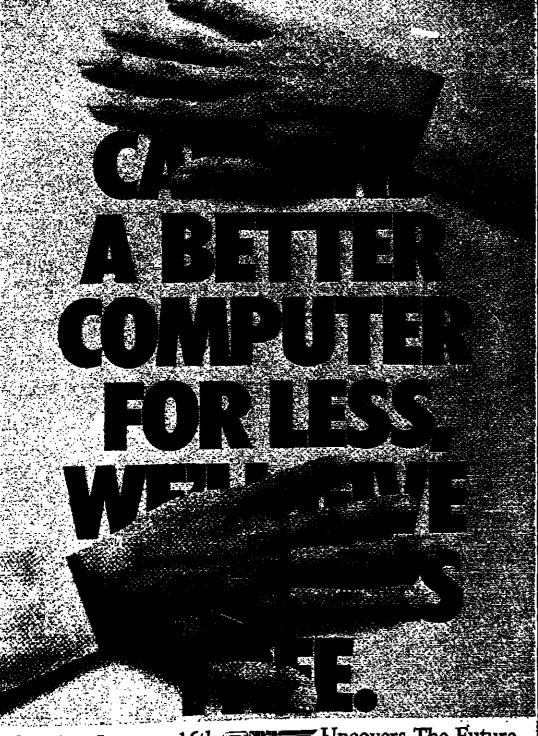
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Nasa

lose its

monopoly

ARLINGTON, Virginia, Jan 12, (AP): Vice President Dan Quayle hinted Wednesday that

Nasa may lose its monopoly on US space exploration, with the

government turning to a programme that could include commercial and defence

Quayle, speaking at a meeting

of the American Astronomical Society, said he has been told by

space experts that changes are

needed in how the United States

The vice president, who is chairman of the National Space Council, said the organisation "is looking across the traditional

divisions among civil, commer-cial and national security activities" in reassessing the US

space programme.

"We are building a programme that is more than the sum of these parts," said Quayle.

Quayle gave no specific details how the pational space effort.

how the national space effort might be split between various

But a source at the National Aeronautics and Space Adminis-

tration said that some in the

agency have interpreted his

remarks as suggesting that some other agencies may assume a lar-

ger role in the US space

programme. The source said

such a division of efforts have

been discussed within the

Bush has asked the space council "that we shape a space

programme that is aggressive and innovative and that we

challenge accepted ways of doing

Quayle said he has met with

groups of space experts and "I

heard much the same thing from almost all of them. They told me that we simply can no longer accept the starus quo. I agree."

Space Council, Quayle said, "I

intend to bring the kind of

innovative approaches to the

space programme of the '90s that

were characteristic of Polaris,

Atlas, Apollo, Voyager and

some programme in the defence

advanced research projects

of airevamped space programme would be development of expan-ded space launch capabilities.

Systems to launch into space, he

said. "are as vital to space travel

as the interstate highway system

not be considered only within the

context of a single government

agency. They cannot be built to

meet the needs only of a specific

space programme. They must be structured to accommodate both

current needs and future

programme."
One of the most serious effects
of the 1986 Challenger explosion

that grounded the space shuttle fleet was that it virtually left the United States without a way to

launch large satellites. The shut-tle had been developed with the

promise that it would serve all of

the nation's space launch needs.

administration support for plans

to return humans to the moon

and eventually send astronauts

Asteroids

wiped out

dinosaurs

WASHINGTON, Jan 12,

(Reuter): A new study of plant

fossils adds weight to the theory

that the dinosaurs were wiped

out after a giant asteroid collided with the Earth, a government

scientist reported.

Jack Wolfe of the US

Geological Survey said his study

of changes in the shape of the

leaves of fossilisted plants 65 million years ago indicates a

precipitous drop in temperature for one to two months followed by a fourfold increase in rainfall

and a 10 degrees centigrade (18 Fahrenheit) rise in temperature over the next 500,000 to one

million years.
The climatic changes occurred

at precisely the time that the din-

osaurs disappeared from the face

While the extinction of the din-

osaurs has been shrouded in mys-

tery, scientists increasingly are

convinced that it followed a coll-

ision of the Earth with a giant

Such a collision would have

sent a large cloud of dust or water

vapour into the air, initially

blocking out the sun's rays but eventually creating a greenhouse

effect that would have sent global

Quayle reaffirmed Bush

Launch systems, he said, "can-

is to motor travel."

As chairman of the National

Quayle said President George

conducts its space exploration.

elements.

agencies.

business."

Columbia crew to the rescue of falling satellite



A navy Syncom satellite spins from the cargo bay of the shuttle Columbia after it was deployed. The satellite will be used to provide communications between military units around the world. (Reuter



Shuttle Columbia pilot James Wetherbee studies a checklist on the flight deck of the orbiter as he prepares for a 'burn' of the orbital manoeuvring system. (Reuter wirephoto)

Trickiest move ever attempted

CAPE CANAVERAL, Jan 12, (AP): Columbia's radar located an orbiting science lab today as the astronauts moved in to capture it with the space shuttle's robot arm and save it from fiery doom while re-entering the atmos-

"We've got a good lock on it at 148, 158 feet," commander Dan Brandenstein reported as the crew tuned in the radar for the final hours of the 200-mile-high (320-

Shortly before 6 am (1100 GMT), three hours before the predicted rendezvous, Columbia was about 28 miles (45 kilometres) from the satellite, called the long duration exposure facility. Both were traveling at more than 17,400 mph (28,000 kilometres) about 200 miles (320 kilometres) about the globe

Earlier, Brandenstein reported the astronauts had spotted the 11-tonne, 30-foot-long (nine-metre-long) satellite glinting in the sunlight more than 100 miles (160 kilometres) away during the night and that it was "as

Brandenstein and pilot Jim Wetherbee were guiding Columbia to the rendezvous. After catching up they plan-

ned to fly in formation at a distance of 35 feet (10 metres) while mission specialist Bonnie Dunbar uses the shuttle's 50-foot (15-metre) robot arm to snatch the satellite.

Dunbar was to hold the huge payload on the end of the Dunbar was to hold the huge payload on the end of the arm for four hours, twisting it slowly, while mission specialists Marsha Ivins and David Low photographed all of its 57 experiments from every angle.

"Some might have become so eroded or weakened by

the long exposure to space and bombardment b micrometeoroids and atomic oxygen that they could fall apart during the stress of atmospheric re-entry or a return to Earth's gravity," Dunbar said, "We want good documentary photos in case that happens."

After photographine the establish Dunbar and a said in the said

After photographing the satellite, Dunbar was to tuck it into the shuttle's cargo bay.

The satellite, the size of a small bus, contains a wealth of scientific and technological information after being

exposed to the space environment for six years.
But it was being slowed by atmospheric drag and tugged down by Earth's gravity, and was expected to plunge to Earth on March 9 and burn up in the atmosphere, if the

Breast cancer not exclusively female

Man undergoes mastectomy

NEW YORK, (AP): Some of Alvin Burkett's co-workers thought he was kidding when he told them the diagnosis. Even some nurses didn't believe him.

Burkett, a 51-year-old computer specialist from Bellevue, Nebraska, had breast cancer. And in June he had a mastectomy.

As a man, "you've got to be careful when you tell people you've had a mastectomy," he said recently. "They think 'vasectomy.' "Only about 900 men a year are diagnosed with breast careful in the United States, and some 300 die of it annually, compared to about 142,000 diagnoses and 43,000 deaths in

Experts say it is too rare in men to justify widespread screening, as is urged for women, and that few doctors check for it while doing

Burkett, now 52, had never heard of breast cancer in men when he noticed a lump near his right nipple, beneath the surrounding areola. An internist sent him to a surgeon for a biopsy, in which a piece of tissue is removed

Anaemia

carrying

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): A

group of British researchers said yesterday they had created gen-etically-engineered mice which carry the human gene responsi-

ble for the incurable disease

allow doctors for the first time to

disease in a living organism

rather than a test tube, the resear-

Sickle-cell anaemia is a

hereditary blood disease that

causes the red blood corpuscies

to distort into "sickle" shapes

which do not live as long as heal-

Sufferers develop severe

anaemia --- weakness and pallor

from a shortage of red blood cor-puscles — and the deformed cells

clog up small arteries, leading to

Victims are also prone to

severe infection, the most com-

mon cause of death from the dis-

ease, although doctors do not

know the reason for the

increased susceptibility.

The genetic nature of the dis-

ease which is particularly prevalent among black popula-tions, was identified 30 years ago

but little progress has been made

towards a cure. Sickle cell

anaemia is particularly difficult

A major breakthrough was

made in 1987, however, when

biologists pinpointed the respon-

A research team from Lon-

don's National Institute for

Medical Research led by Frank

Grosveld said they created three

so-called "transgenic mice" by

injecting this gene into the blood

cells of mice and then breeding

They reported in the scientific

journal Nature that they created

ranging from 10 to almost 100

life threatening complications.

The bioengineered mice will

mouse

'sickle-cell" anaemia.

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for microscopic inspection.

Even before the diagnosis, Burkett had started checking around for information about male breast cancer, and found little available. By the time the lab reported the lump was cancerous, he said, "I sort of suspec-

He spent two days in the hospital after a modified mastectomy. Tests at the time and since have shown no evidence of any remain-

In fact, the prognosis for men as a group is worse than for women, experts say. One reason is that men tend to be diagnosed in later staged, because few men or medical personnel are watching for it in earlier stages.

In addition, because men have so much less breast tissue than women, it is easier for cancer to spread to adjacent tissue, said Robert Crichlow, professor and chairman of surgery at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Centre in Hanover, New Hampshire.

Interferon genes leukemia linked: Loss

of genes that make interferon, a natural disease-fight-ing substance, has been linked with development of a form of leukemia, researchers said.

The researchers speculate that the interferon genes may act as regulators that stop the body's cells from

have as regulators mat stop the body's cens from becoming cancerous.

Researchers from the University of Chicago found an association between loss of genes and development of acute lymphoblastic leukemia, a blood cancer that is the most common form of childhood

Safety arguments on vaccine: A panel of

US experts heard conflicting views Wednesday on whether the vaccine used to prevent whooping cough is safe or can cause brain damage and death in some

maintained that there is no scientific proof the vac-

cine causes severe neurological damage or death, but said it can worsen pre-existing problems or bring

them to light where they had previously been unknown. (AP)

Vaccine for lyme disease: Research on

human application of an animal vaccine for lyme disease could begin within a month, and a human

type disease vaccine could be available within five years, the vaccine's developer said Wednesday.

The vaccine, developed in 1986, protects hamsters against infection with lyme disease, which is spread

by ticks, said Russell Johnson, a microbiologist at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

A vaccine to protect dogs and other animals against lyme disease could be ready for use in a year, said Johnson. Development of a human vaccine takes longer because of the higher standards such a

Hospital mortality study flawed: A

widely used US government report comparing hospital mortality rates is flawed and may create unneces-

sary fear among patients about the quality of their hospitals, researchers who analysed the study said

The report is published by the US Health Care Financing Administration, which uses a computer analysis of MediCare claims at each of the nation's nearly 6,000 hospitals to compare mortality rates

among MediCare patients.

But a study in this week's Journal of the American

Medical Association says the report is misleading

because it does not take into account how severely ill a patient was when admitted to the hospital. (AP)

Doctors may starve coma patient: A Dutch court ruled on Thursday that doctors could starve to death a woman who has been in a coma for

more than 15 years.

The Amelo district court turned down an appeal

order restraining doctors who stopped artificially feeding 47-year-old lneke Stinissen on Monday.

Blood donations are taxable: The Dutch

Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday that the Red

from the Netherlands Patients Association for

vaccine must meet, he said. (AP)

Officials of the American Academy of Pa

leukemia. (AP)

Why is breast cancer so rare in men? It doesn't appear to be simply that men have so much less breast tissue, as the risk is not related to breast size in women, said Arthur Holleb, a retired American Cancer Society official who has studied breast cancer

Instead, the key seems to be that a man's breast is not the target for hormones that a woman's breast is; the changes hormones induce in a woman's breast may make cancer more likely than in a man's, he said.

Any lump in a man's breast is reason to consult a doctor, especially if it is under the nipple, said William Donegan, professor of surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Most breast cancer diagnoses in men are made around ages 60 to 65, but men in their 20s can develop the disease as well.

Donegan noted that many teenage boys get harmless breast lumps that tend to disappear in a year or two. Breast cancer is very rare in

Cross was liable to pay tax on blood donations by volunteers, the Dutch News Agency Ang said. The court acknowledged that the Red Cross blood

transfusion service was a non-profit organisation but said it competed with commercial firms and blood donations must be regarded as taxable income.

Legionnaires' disease traced: Two super-

market chains say they have stopped using a vegeta-ble-freshening mist machine blamed for killing at least two people and infecting dozens of others with legionnaires' disease.

-The virus was diagnosed in Bogalusa, Louisiana last November at the Winn-Dixie Supermarket, one of three supermarkets in the southeast Louisiana town of 16,000, said Dr Louise McFarland, the state

epidemiologist.
She said Wednesday that Winn-Dixie was "most

False advertising complaint filed: The

US Federal Trade Commission said Thursday it had filed a false advertising claim against the maker and advertiser of "Fat-Magnet" diet pills, touted in ads as capable of clinging to fat before it shows.

The commission, seeking about 55 million in consumer redress, contends the national advertisements foliated the said of the sa

falsely claim the pills contribute to weight loss and wrongly state the product is "100 per cent safe."

harmful for some people, possibly causing diarrhea or stomach cramps, said Marcy J.K. Tiffany, director of the commissioners Los Angeles office. (AP)

UK flu deaths drop: The number of flu deaths

in England and Wales dropped to 530 in the last week of December compared with 786 the week before.

Deaths from all causes were also down to 15,756 in the week ending December 29 compared with 19,180 in the week ending December 22, the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys said. (Kuna)

Transplantee heads home: Alyssa Smith, the nation's first living-donor liver transplant recipient, and her mother return to their Texas home

recipient, and her mother return to their Texas home on Friday, hospital officials said.

A farewell celebration and news conference were planned at the University of Chicago's Wyler Children's Hospital Medical Centre for 23-month-old Alyssa and Teresa Smith, 29, who donated part of her liver to her daughter on Nov 27.

Alyssa was released from the hospital on Monday

and has been staying with her mother at a nearby residence for the families of out-of-town patients. (AP)

Delta ban smoking: Delta Air Lines announced Thursday that it will extend a new smoking ban, scheduled to begin Feb 25 on flights of six hours or less within the United States, to cover all its service in

Smoking will be allowed only on Delta's Europe and Asia flights.

"In expanding the smoking ban, we continue to respond to the wishes of our passengers," said Whit Hawkins, Delta's senior vice president for market-

The pills, which cost \$20 for a bottle of 90, could be

co-operative" in the investigation. (AP)

(Reuter)

Lead exposure causes trouble

Permanent learning disability

BOSTON, Jan 12, (UPI): Low-level lead exposure during childhood has permanent effects that follow its victims into adulthood, including a high school dropout rate seven times the national average, researchers

In a follow-up of a landmark 1979 study which prompted removal of lead from America's gasoline supply and restricted the use of lead in paint products, researchers found those same children — now young adults — are plagued by serious academic and socioeconomic problems.

Besides the high dropout rate, the lead-exposed subjects displayed poorer reading, vocabulary and motor skills, weaker hand-eye co-ordination and more behavioural problems than non-exposed individuals,

researchers said.

"The practical importance of early detection and abatement of lead in the environment, before it enters the bodies of children, is borne out by these long-term findings in young adults," said the researchers, who reported their findings Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine. Lead exposure, to which the

developing central nervous sys-tems of young children are most susceptible, can cause brain damage and impair mental development.

Experts had suspected that lead exposure would have longterm effects, but the new study by Dr Herbert Needleman of the University of Pittsburgh and colleagues at Harvard University and Children's Hospital in Boston was the first to prove it.
We found that it is perman-

ent, and that it reflects itself in real-life success, not just IQ numbers. The victims are not graduating from high school and they have reading disabilities,'

'The dark side of this problem is what it means in job opportunities and earning capacity for these people. The good side is that this is a totally preventable

The main causes of lead exposure are paint chips and paint dust from houses built before the mid-1950s, household water supplies that flow through lead pipes and lead solder, and

Last summer, the Federal Centres for Diseases Control in Atlanta estimated that 17 per cent of the children in the United States under age 5 had elevated blood lead levels. In its report to Congress, the agency estimated that figure jumped to 55 per cent for poor black children.
The CDC's Dr Frank Mitchell

said the Needleman study "confirms that we are paying a high price for lead-poisoned children. "Obviously getting the lead out of gasoline has reduced the amount of lead in the air," Mitchell said "We have made acceptable said "We have "We

chell said. "We have made some significant progress in food and solder. Lead in soil is a very tough nut to crack. "The lead in soil and in older

houses is pervasive. Any house built before the mid-1950s by definition has lead paint in it, the CDC official said. "Eating lead paint is still a problem. Surprisingly enough, the picture people have of a child peeling paint off the wall is not the prime problem. It is the soil, dust, air and water that we all live around

pressors - sapped early hopes for

would wear a battery pack and be able to walk, exercise and even work,

Blood Institute is financing research at Penn state, the University of Utah.

Recipients of an electric heart

The National Heart, Lung and

the device.

he said yesterday.



Mine explosion victim

A miner with 70 per cent burns is treated in a hospital after a gas explosion in Poland's deepest coal mine killing seven and injuring 21. The explosion occurred 1,030 metres underground in the mine in Rude Salaska, (Reuter wirpehoto)

Women drinkers

Getting more kick

BOSTON, Jan 12, (AP): Scientists believe they have solved one of the enduring mysteries of the sexes - why men can drink more alcohol

Many believe that women typically get drunk more quickly than men, even when their smaller size is taken into account, and they are more likely to suffer liver damage from alcohol abuse.

The researchers say the difference is all in the stomach.

They found that men make far higher amounts of a protective stomach enzyme that breaks down alcohol before it hits the bloodstream. The result: they don't get as tipsy as women on the same number

"The implication of this is that when it comes to social drinking, women should be more careful than men for a given amount of alcohol when driving or operating equipment," said Dr Charles S. Lieber, a co-author of the study and director of the Alcohol Research and Treatment Centre at the Brinx veterans affairs medical center. Among the study's findings:

- Women absorb about one-third more alcohol into their blood than men do, even when they are the same size and drink the same

— The enzyme, called alcohol dehydrogenase, works better when people have a full stomach. This explains why folks handle their liquor better if they drink after eating.

— Alcoholics make less of the protective enzyme than social drinkers

do.
"I am convinced that there are sex differences in handling alcohol," commented Dr. Judith Gavaler of the University of Pittsburgh. "This is a very important study for all of us doing research in alcohol. This will

change the way we approach this subject."

The study, directed by Dr Mario Frezza of the University School of Medicine in Trieste, Italy, was published in yesterday's New England

The study found that non-alcoholic women make about 30 per cent less of the enzyme than non-alcoholic men do. While alcoholic men produce less than social drinkers, the difference was most dramatic in

alcoholic women, who make virtually none of the enzyme.

"In alcoholic women, there is for all practical purposes no gastric protection anymore," said Lieber.

FDA recalls Jarvik artificial heart due to problems US to test artificial lungs on ten human patients

Steroids may help infertility

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): Steroids, the muscle-building drug, may help some infertile couples have babies, according to a British study released on today. Men whose sperm are killed off by antibodies may be able to correct the

condition by taking selective steroid dosages, thus redcucing the danger of serious side effects, doctors sav. Antibodies to sperms are the cause of infertility in about 10 per cent of all couples who cannot achieve preg-

nancy.

High dosages of steroids had been used to correct the condition, with a success rate of about 31 per cent, but the treatment was discontinued in Britain in 1982.

Doctors at Queen Charlotte's Hospital for women in London found that men who took moderate dosages of steroids on certain days during their female partner's menstrual cycle had a pregnancy success rate of 31 per cent.

WASHINGTON, Jan 12 (UPI): The US Food and Drug Administration has recalled the historic Jarvik artificial heart, citing manufacturing problems and reports of greater patient risks, officials confirmed yes-terday.

The action officially suspends a programme that was hailed as a medical breakthrough when it began in the early 1980s, but failed to fulfill expectations of providing a manmade implant to replace the most vital of human organs.
All of the patients who received the

Jarvik 7 heart on a permanent basis, beginning with Barney Clark in 1982, died after experiencing a variety of

In withdrawing its approval, the FDA cited deficiencies in manufac-turing quality control, research site monitoring, personnel training and reports to the FDA of adverse reactions. The deficiencies were not dis-

quality control were found to be poor enough to endanger patients," said an FDA statement. "The FDA believes that, on balance, the deficiencies in the symbion studies were great enough that the risks to patients were outweighing the ben-

Scientists report, work is proceeding on a new generation of plastic hearts that would let patients live independent of external machines. Some researchers said yesterday that the FDA's administration's withdrawal of approval for the Jarvik-7 device might hurt their work by creating doubt about the longterm feasibility of artificial bearts.

They agree that the future of artificial hearts lies in totally transplantable devices, such as batteryrun devices that also could use exter-

Dr William Pierce of the Penn State Medical Centre in Hershey implanted Penn state's first total artificial heart, a pneumatic device like the Jarvik-7, in 1985. But the risk of strokes and infection facing Some day, a patient's plastic heart recipients of the air-driven heart may beat from current flowing from

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan 12, (UPI): An implantable device designed to take over half of the functions of the lung has been approved for human experimentation in four selected US medical cen-

tres, the Utah developers said yesterday.

If proved safe and efficient in human tests scheduled to begin this year, the artificial lung could ultimately provide life-saving help to tens of thousands of patients with acute respiratory his car's cigarette lighter, says Dr. Donald Olsen, a University of Utah

researcher developing the Utah-100

hydraulic heart.

failure, said Dr JD Mortensen, the chief developer. "It functions as an artificial lung, if you wish to use that term," Mortensen said: "It oxygenates the blood. But, equally important, it removes carbon dioxide from the blood." However, the device is not intended as a

replacement for human lungs, but a temporary aid to facilitate healing of lungs in patients with non-chronic respiratory disease, he said.

in calves.

the Texas Heart Institute and the who remain mostly bedridden in hospitals, linked by tubes to large com-

Cleveland Clinic of Electric Artificial

Gerson Rosenberg, a biomedical

engineer who leads Penn State's Elec-tic Heart Development, said the school is in the third year of its 5-1/2

year contract and is testing the device

Penn state's air-driven device now

is the only FDA-approved total

lung.
The Food and Drug Administration in September approved the Intravascular Blood Gas

Exchange device, or Ivox, for testing in 10 acutely ill human patients. The first Ivox arrived last week at LDS hospital, Salt Lake City, and Pennylvania State University's Hershey Medical centre.

Researchers hope the bionic organ technology ventually could lead to a permanent man-made

Rosenberg predicted the FDA will consider a totally implantable, elec-tric heart by the late 1990s. The FDA's recall of the Jarvik artificial heart could slow research in the field but probably won't affect patients needing temporary miplants medical experts said yester-

temperatures soaring.
The principal evidence behind the theory is the discovery in numerous sites around the world of a fine layer of an element rare on Earth but found in abundance

of Earth.

asteroid.



" INTERNATIONAL

Built 4,300 years ago for an official in the Pharaoh's palace

Egyptian excavators find new tomb in pyramid's shadow

GIZA PLATEAU, Egypt, (AP): Egyptian excavators have discovered a tomb in the shadow of the Giza pyramids that had been

missed by generations of archaeologists. The 66-foot (20-metres) tomb, with a design that antiquities officials said is unique, was built 4,300 years ago for an official in the Pharaoh's palace and his two

It's the first previously unknown tomb found on Giza Plateau since the mid-1950s. This is the first time we've seen such a tomb," said Zahi Hawass, director-general of the Pyramids Area, whose diggers found the monument under a blanket of sand last

October. "We can find no parallel to this tomb during the old kingdom."

Hawass dates the tomb to the end of the fifth dynasty, a little more than 200 years

after the death in 2528 BC of Pharaoh Cheops, builder of the nearby great

pyramid. Giza inspector Mahmond Hassan Afife found the tomb when he chanced upon the

edge of a limestone wall. We looked at the old records to see what early excavators had recorded in this spot," Afife said. "There was nothing."

Hieroglyphics revealed the tomb owner's name, that he was a "purification priests" who handled religious rituals in the temple and that he was known to the king, which made him a palace official.

Built of limestone blocks, the 26-foot (8metre) wide, oblong tomb, called a Mas-taba, stand over a shaft 23 feet (7 metres) deep that was sealed with mud bricks after bodies were lowered into it. The Mastaba

had no inner chambers.
On one side, ancient artists carved two

false doors with the owner's name, Per-n-Ankh. The doors face a courtyard with six limestone columns describing him and his wives Mitrt Nefer and N-Hwy.

The winter archaeology season was a month old when Afife found the tomb, and vigorous excavation has continued since, in On a recent morning, a vicious sandstorm

so engulfed the dig that workers used upside-down rubber buckets to shield their heads from the pelting sand. A mountain of debris cascaded onto the tomb's base faster than diggers could dig.

Suddenly, from deep in a shaft, workmen yelled "gumgumah," or "skull" in Arabic. As a man above slowly turned an

apparatus like a well's pulley, a reddish-gold skull creaked its way up the pit and into the hands of inspectors. It appeared to be a female's, in excellent

Such a find testifies to the site's value. Nearby pits have yielded piles of pottery shards, bones and wooden pieces that antiquities officials said might be part of a bed or other funerary furniture to accompany the dead into the afterlife.

In an adjacent tomb, the same archaeological team recovered two limestone statues of wives of pharaonic officials. Egyptologist Hawass said he knew valuable leftovers would emerge from re-excavation of the vast western cemetery, begun in the fifth year of Cheops' reign. Officials and

their families used the cemetery over the

centuries, building limestone and mudbrick tombs along avenues of various sizes. "Some Egyptologists thought the area wouldn't give anything else, but they're wrong." Hawass said. "Early excavators

even used dynamite. "This tomb lies at the edge of the cemetery. Earlier this century archaeolog-ists dumped their dirt onto these hills without checking to see if anything interesting lay underneath. Chances are even more tombs still lie just over there."

were in a hurry, Indiana Jones style. Some

Last year archaeologists clearing another part of the cemetery found the wellpreserved, gypsum-masked head of a female mummy from about the same period, her faint smile likened by some to the Mona

Giza Plateau has two great cometeries: the eastern, between the great pyramid and the Sphinx, and the western, wedged between the pyramids of Cheops and Chephren. Generally, queens and royal offspring are buried in the eastern cemetery, officials and their families in the western.

The cemeteries of Mastabas, dwarfed by the pyramids towering above them, were arranged in parallel rows several feet (metres) apart, with tomb ownership plan-ned carefully. Everybody wanted to be buried in the pyramids area, seeking special benefits in life after death.

Over the years, as demand increased, the symmetry of the cemeteries went askew. Small tombs of officials and priests were placed among the once-neat rows until the entire area was honeycombed with burials.

Quakes shake Redoubt volcano

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Jan 12 (UPI): Earthquakes rumbled yesterday beneath Redoubt volcano, but clouds prevented scientists from seeing whether the mountain spewed another burst of steam and ash into the air, geologists said.

There was a seismic event at the volcano beginning at 10:01 (am local time) that lasted for between 8 to 10 minutes," said Steve Brantley of the Alaska Vol-

cano Observatory. He described the activity as "relatively small" and "much much smaller" than an eruption

Monday. There was no confirmation of voicanic ash because the peak was obscured by dense clouds,

Brantley said. There had been no eruptions at the volcano, 110 miles (180 km) southwest of Anchorage, Since Monday's surprise blast sent ash 40,000 feet (12,000 m) into air.

Schools in the Soldotna area, hardest hit by the volcanic ash. remained closed for the third day as Borough officials checked ventilation systems and looked

for ways to settle the ash. amm. The first of two scheduled tan--tim kers arrived at the crippled Drift river facility early Wednesday and crews spent the rest of the day trying to restore power with temporary generators, said Larry Duncanson, terminal

> Duncanson said yesterday he expected pumping to start within

a couple of hours. Power to the facility was knocked out by mudflows following an eruption Jan 2. The facility also suffered partial flooding after the blast sent steaming boulders and mud down the Drift river.

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A four-wheel-drive vehicle negotiates flood waters in Centralia. (Reuter

Floods cause havoc

Five dead in US. CENTRALIA. Washington Japa 12. (AP): A sea of flood waters covered southwest Washington and northern Oregon yesterday, closing part of a busy interstate highway and other roads and foreing about 3.000 people to flee their

were beginning to recede on the plains west of the Cascade mountains late Wednesday. Bad weather also was blamed for two deaths in Oregon since a series of storms smashed ashore last weekend. dents sandbagged riverbanks in some coastal Washington towns as they braced for the rivers to crest at Harbour's Edge yesterday and today.

"This is potentially the worst flooding since the 1930s," said Sheriff Dennis

Morrissette of Grays Harbour county.

The deaths included a man whose body was found floating in the Centralia flood waters. A man whose car was swamped on a flooded section of Interstate 5 south of town also died, and a man drowned in his car north of Tacoma

authorities said. Twelve miles (nineteen kilometres) of Interstate 5, the north-south artery linking Portland, Oregon, and Scattle in the north-western United States, was closed after flood waters covered a two-mile (three-kilometre) stretch near Centralia, the Department of Emergency management reported.

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Search for 10th planet begins

ARLINGTON, Virginia, Jan 12, (AP): Astronomers at the US naval observatory are narrowing their solar system search for a 10th planet, a mysterious, phantom giant that has long captured the specula-tion and interest of stargazers.

Speculation about the existence another planet evolved because something, perhaps a massive object orbiting the sun on the outer edge of the solar system, is giving a gravitational nadge that disrupts the predicted orbits of Uranus and tune, said astronomer R.S.

"We are still incapable of predict-ing the location of Uranas," Harrington said. "It's clear something is wrong in the outer solar system."

Astronomers have theorised since the beginning of the century that some additional planets existed beyond the orbits of Neptune. The theory sprang from observations that Urams failed to orbit the sun with the majestic and mathematical with the majestic and mathematical symmetry experts expected.

That led to a search that resulted in the 1930 discovery of Plato, the ninth known planet in the solar sys-tem. Further, searching genealed in 1978 that a moon was orbiting

later showed the combin Piuto and its moon are about 1,000 times too small to account for the detected, but unexplained irregularity of the Neptune and ous orbits.

"Something is there and we've got to look," Harrington said. Some astronomers have attributed the abnormal orbit of Uranas and Neptune to errors in

But Harrington said a model of the solar system created by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which guided the Voyager spacecraft near both Uranus and Neptune, still is not consistent with recent observa-tions on the position of Uranus. He said the JPL data seemed to be in agreement for a time, but new ervations show Uranus is deviat-

ing from the expected path.
"Our current evidence is that the data is still off," be said. "We still do ot understand the outer solar sys-

A search for planet X is under way in Washington, the main office of the naval observatory, and at the Black Birch Astrometric Observatory near Blenheim, New

Harrington said the search has been narrowed using a computer. A number of theoretical 10-planet solar systems were simulated in a naval observatory computer to determine where planet X had to be to produce the effects seen on the orbits of Uranus and Neptune.

That relatively small area of the seavens will be searched in April and May by an astrographic telescope at Black Birch. The telescope will take pictures of the target area on successive nights and the photos will be sent to Washington for study.

Harrington said he would use a machine called the blink comparator to look for the phantom net. A blink comparator flashes sack and forth between two photo plates, causing an apparent motion to the observer if any point of light in the twin photos has changed posi-

tion from one night to the next.

Planet X, Harrington said, is thought to be three to five times larger than Earth and moving in an orbit about three times farther from the sun than Neptune or Pluto. That would make the phantom planet about as visible as Pluto, a planet that can be seen only with sophisticated telescopes.

An international team of astronomers Wednesday reported it may have witnessed the birth of a pair of uasars—the most powerful type of bject in the universe.

Dr Georges Meylan of Nasa's Space Telescope Institute said his team has detected an object in the constellation pisces that appears to be a pair of quasars separated by less than 100,000 light years — a small distance is cosmic terms. One light year equals about 6 trillion miles (10 trilliam km).

Studies confirm 'great attraction'

Milky Way galaxy tugged

ARLINGTON, Virginia, Jan 12, (AP): Like an immense gravitational magnet, a vast celestial structure nicknamed "the Great Attractor" is pulling powerfully at the Milky Way and more than 100 other galaxies, causing a dramatic distortion in the normal expansion of the nearby universe.

The structure has been shown in new studies to be pulling on galaxies from across more than 100 million light years of space, astronomer Alan Dressler said yesterday at a meeting of the American Astronomical

Dressler, with the Carnegie Institution of Washington, said he and Sandra Faber of the University of California at Santa Cruz have confirmed the influence of the Great Attractor by measuring the movements of about 400 galaxies and comparing that motion with what is considered normal for an expanding

More than 100 galaxies were found to have a "peculiar motion" that pointed toward the centre of what Dressler labeled the Great

Current theory is that the universe is expanding at a steady rate, hence all galaxies are moving in one direction at a constant rate. Any change in rate or direction is considered 'peculiar motion.'

The Great Attractor is a large area of density in which galaxies are moving toward it from one side and toward it from the other,' Dressler said. "The distortion (in motion) is

very marked and very significant." Dressler said the gravitational pull of the Great Attractor has added about 600 kilometres a second to the motion velocity of

the galaxies it is drawing in.

Dressler, Faber and five other astronomers, called the "Seven Samurai" in the astronomy community, presented preliminary evidence for the presence of the Great

Attractor in 1987. The idea was met then with great scepticism because it went against theories that matter formed in generally smooth patterns in the

universe. "We had found a rather large lump," Dres-sler said. Their studies then showed that only galaxies on the same side as the Milky Way

were being drawn toward the Attractor. Since then, Dressler said, he and Faber have found many additional star clusters also moving toward the Great Attractor, including some moving from beyond the assumed location of the structure.

There is evidence now that galaxies are falling in from the other side," he said. Measurements, he said, have determined

that the Great Attractor is about 500 million light years across and that the centre of the structure is about 150 million light years away from the Milky Way, which is the home of the sun and the earth.

A light year is the distance in space that light will travel in one year, about 6 trillion

Dressler said the structure stretches about 60 degrees across the Earth's view of the sky, reaching from superclusters of galaxies known as Hydra and Centaurus, through the

Pavo and Indus.

The Great Attractor is not solid, but rather is an area where there is a greater than average density of superclusters of galaxies and the socalled "Dark Matter," universal material that cannot be seen. Dressler said. Much of the mass in the universe is thought by astronomers to be "Dark Matter."

Astronomers reported yesterday discovering a "bar" of stars at the centre of the Milky Way, suggesting our galaxy may be shaped differently than previously thought. Galaxies, which are giant systems of stars,

come in three basic shapes: Spiral elliptical and irregular. Furthermore, about half of spiral galaxies are classified as normal, and half are considered barred. Space scientists have generally thought the

Milky Way — the cosmic home of our solar system — is a normal spiral with a round, baseball-shaped bulge of stars in the centre. But new research from Princetown University and University of Maryland astronomers indicates that may not be the case.

Radio astronomy observations of hydrogen gas show the Milky Way appears to have an oval-shaped bar in its centre—a large group of stars shaped more like a flattened football than a baseball, said Leo Blitz of the University of Maryland.

■ Space scientists said yesterday they are trying to figure out what lies behind a newly discovered cosmic phenomenon - stars that appear to sit in dark, empty "sockets" of

It's setting a new standard of value in German sports sedans.

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'Irises' for grabs

Beleaguered businessman Alan Bond is prepared to self the world's most expensive painting, Van Gogh's "Irises," if the price is right, a spokesman has said.

Michael Cross, a spokesman for Bond's private com-

pany, Dalihold investments, said: "Over the past few mon-ths we have received a great many offers for the painting but we said it is not for sale and is not officially on the market and that remains the case.
"We are most definitely not soliciting offers but there is a

preparedness at the right price to sell the painting under the right conditions on the basis of appropriate financial

Cross added: "We have had several very serious offers and negotiations are continuing. But no one has the right to go out and sell the painting for us," he said in a telephone interview with Reuters from Bond's Perth The New York Times had reported the painting was for

To facilitate the sale to Bond, the auction house Soth-

eby's extended him a \$27-million loan, using the painting itself as collateral, the newspaper said. Picture shows Van Gogh's painting 'Irises.' (Reuter wire-

Briton

painting

LONDON, Jan 12, (AP): A man with a knife slashed a painting by

the 16th century Italian artist

Federico Baroccio at the National

Gallery and was ordered to stand

trial for criminal damage,

officials said yesterday.
The state-funded gallery, home

of some of the greatest art treasures in Britain, said in a

statement that the painting — the Madonna and Child with St. Joseph and the Infant Baptist" —

was cut in uine places in Wednes-

Guards wrestled the knife from

The National Gallery said its

conservation and restoration

department will take 'maybe more

than a year" to repair the paint-ing, which is worth at least \$1.6 million.

"At the moment, we believe that

Came appeared at Bow Street

magistrates court yesterday on

charges of causing criminal damage and was ordered to stand

trial Feb 1 pending medical reports from a Western England

hospital where he has undergone

The damaged painting had been

on display since it was bequeathed

to the gallery in 1931.

Gallery experts refused to estimate its value. But a lesser-

known work by the same artist sold for \$209,160 at Christie's

Britain's domestic news

agency, Press Association, said

the painting, has been valued at \$1.6-4.8 million.

the painting could fetch as much as \$25 million. Baroccio was "mon-

uneutally influential in his time ...

and none of his work that is really

authentic has come on the market

In 1987, a man with a shotgun

blasted one of the gallery's

greatest treasures, Leonardo Da Vinci's drawing the Virgin and Child with St. Anne and St. John the Baptist, as it hung on show.

The Da Vinci drawing under-went an intricate 15-month res-

toration and is now back on show.

Thieves have stolen 80 ceramic

works by Pablo Picasso worth two million francs (\$350,000) from the

French Riviera workshop where the artist worked for 40 years,

■ "The Coronation of The Vir-

gin," a masterpiece by the 15th

century Italian artist Botticelli.

has gone back on show in Florence

50 years after it was removed for

police said on yesterday.

for donkey's years," he said.

But art critic Brian Sewell said

unspecified treatment.

auctioneers last year.

complete restoration will be possi-ble," said a gallery spokeswoman.

the assailant, identified as Martin

day's attack.

Came, 2 provided.

Praise for reclusive writer

Rushdie reviews slashes NEW YORK, Jan 12, (Reuter): Novelist Salman Rushdie, in hiding \$1.6m from Muslim extremists who have vowed to kill him, has written a book

review praising a novelist famed for being reclusive and alluded to his own enforced isolation. In the review to be published in the New York Times' book review next Sunday, Rushdie praises "Vineland" by Thomas Pynchon in a conversational style punctuated by California beach slang much like

that used by Pynchon. The book review is already available in a few bookstores Pynchon is the mystery man of American literature, refusing interviews and photographs and known only by a handful of people in

the publishing industry.

In the review, Rushdie says: "the secrecy surrounding the publication of this book ... has been let's face it, ridiculous. I mean, rilly. So he wants a private life and no photographs and nobody to know his home address. I can dig it, I can relate to that (but like, he should try it when

it's compulsory instead of a free-choice option.)"

Pynchon, who wrote the bestselling "V" and "Gravity's Rainbow", has hidden from public view throughout his career. Like Rushdie, his whereabouts and plans are known only to his closest friends and literary representatives.

Rushdie has been in hiding since Iran's late leader Ayatollah Khomeini ordered Muslims to kill him for blasphemy against Islam in his best-selling novel "The Satanic Verses", which has since sold over a million copies in hardcover.

Book review editor Rebecca Pepper Sinkler, who commissioned the the New York Times would not print and Rushdie had objected in the

Stuart kin deny any cover-up plot

BOSTON, Jan 12. (UPI): With a grand jury set to examine whether Charles Stuart killed his pregnant wife in a staged robbery that duped the nation, his siblings denied they conspired to perpetuate the racially

explosive hoax.

Prosecutors who initially targeted a black suspect in the Oct 23 shooting of Carol Stuart were to reconvene a grand jury probing the bizarre slaying today. Investigators now believe Charles Stuart shot and killed his pregnant wife, Carol, in Boston's racially mixed Mission Hill neighbourhood and then shot himself in the abdomen before calling police on his car ohone.

Smart, who was 29, claimed they had been robbed and shot by a black gunman, but authorities shifted their focus to the Boston furrier after his brother Matthew, 23, told police he

At a news conference yesterday Richard Clayman, a lawyer for another brother, Michael, said that only Matthew and Michael Stuart knew last fall of Charles Stuart's

Matthew Stuart informed Michael Stuart within three days of the shooting about what really happened, but other family members knew nothing until this month, Clayman said. Flanked by four of the Stuart siblings at his Chelses law office,

Clayman said three of them — Mark Stuart, Shelly Yandoli and Neysa Porter — did not learn of Stuart's involvement until three days before he jumped to his death Jan 4 from a bridge over Boston Harbour.

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No late entries can be accepted after the closing date.

US withdrawing 2,200 soldiers from Panama

Top-notch lawyers to defend Noriega

PANAMA CITY, Jan 12, (AP): The US military is withdrawing 2,200 soldiers from Panama today, a day after the country's government declared a "new era" and began demolishing the headquarters of ousted dictator Manuel Antonio Noriega. Noriega's legal battle may be waged by some of the nation's most

formidable courtroom warriors. Several high-powered defence attorneys are contemplating joining the legal team assembled to represent the fallen Panamanian dictator in

Slotnick said he was contacted by representatives of Noriega and asked to defend the deposed leader, who faces 145 years in prison and fines of up to \$1.1 million if convicted.

The soldiers from the US Army's 82nd airborne division are flying from Panama to their base at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, leaving behind 19,600 troops from the US invasion force of 26,000, the US Southern Command said.

Approximately 4,400 engineers and civil affairs troops have arrived and will begin the task of rebuilding areas of the capital battered by the invasion that ousted Noriega, former chief of the Panamanian Defence Forces, the army said.

President Guillermo Endara and Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon took aim with sledgehammers yesterday at the former defence forces headquarters, command centre of Noriega's six-year rule.

Panama's fledgling civilian government plans to replace the building with "democracy plaza" and rebuild El Chorillo, a poor neighbourhood set ablaze and destroyed in fighting that left more than 20,000 residents homeless The US government has said it

will donate \$35 million to the rebuilding, which is to follow the demolition of the square block occupied by the old defence forces installations.

In another sign that the old order had crumbled, the head of Noriega's paramilitary troops, the Dignity Battalions, surrendered to US troops on Wednes-

Colamarco's paramilitary gunmen are blamed for setting fire to the slums surrounding defence forces headquarters and . sparking some of the looting that... devastated Panama City after the

said Felicidad. Arias Noriega's wife, and their daughters Sandra, Lorena and Thais are and using illegally obtained

"She is a citizen. If there are complaints against her, her fate is that of any citizen," Arias said. Rey Sierra Goitia, a private lawyer, filed the official com-

plaint against Mrs Noriega. according to sources at the Attorney General's office who declined to be identified. The government must investigate the charges.

In other developments yesterday, the government said ships that switched their registration to another country during US-Panama tensions can return to the Panamanian flag without

In other developments yesterday, the government said ships that switched their registration to another country during US-Panama tensions can return to the Panamanian flag without

Slotnick, winner of an Outstanding Criminal Practitioner Award in New York in 1987, told the Miami Herald he was contacted about the case by the papal nuncio in Panama before Noriega surrendered.

As co-counsel, Slotnick is seeking prominent Miami defence attorney Neal Sonnett. who withdrew from the Noriega case earlier this month citing differences with other defence

■ An Israeli C-130 cargo plane carrying evidence of Israel's ties to the regime of Gen Manuel Noriega took off from Panama City about six hours before US troops assaulted Panama on Dec 20, the Washington Times newspaper disclosed yesterday.

In an exclusive report, the paper quoted US intelligence officials as saying the plane departed at about the time a former Israeli master spy and adviser to Noriega was tipped that the US strike was coming and fled the country.

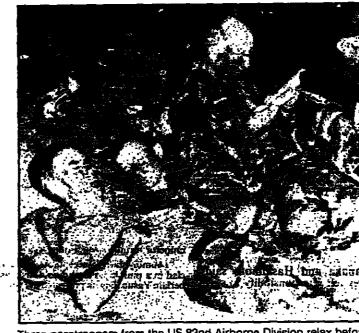
"Manuel Noriega may or may not have a trial, but he should be assured the best the American justice system allows," said New York attorney Barry Slotnick, who said he would decide today whether to join the case.

The changes in the defence team appear to hinge on Slotnick, 50, who has represented alleged organised crime bosses Joseph Colombo and John Gotti, reputedly the underworld's most important "godfather."



Endara uses a sledgehammer to knock down the walls of Noriega's former headquarters in Panama City. (Reuter wirephoto)





Three paratroopers from the US 82nd Airborne Division

NEWS IN BRIEF

Possible rape at governor's home: The brief item in the Nov 30 city police log read: "Forcible rape no weapon governor's mansion. Four boys at

Six weeks later, what happened at the home of Gov. George Mickelson remains a mystery, but the investigation has become a major topic of discussion throughout this sparsely populated farm state in the north-central United States.

Police and court officials, citing a state law that

keeps names and charges against juveniles secret, have refused to discuss their investigation into the alleged drinking party among a small group of teenagers at the mansion on the night of Nov 28.

Mickelson has limited his comment to saying the probe is a private matter. (AP)

Soul II Soul still atop: Soul il Soul topped the British pop singles chart for the second straight week with "Get A Life," keeping out the fast-selling "Hangin' Tough" by New Kids on the Block.

"The Magic Number" by De La Soul pushed upa three places to third, ahead of "Got To Get" by Leila K Feat Rob 'n' Raz. "Do They Know It's Christmas," the African famine relief rerecording by Band Aid II dronned from 2nd to 13th place. Aid II, dropped from 2nd to 13th place.

The only other newcomer in the top 10 apart from New Kids on the Block was "Going Back To My Roots" by FPI Project-Rich in Paradise, which jumped from 23rd spot. (AP)

Adoptive father pleads guilty: A carpenter who was one of the first single men in the state of Florida to adopt children pleaded guilty Thursday to sexually abusing four boys, including three of his adopted sons.
David Allen Lindsey Sr., 45, agreed to accept a 15-

year prison sentence under the plea bargain. Palm Beach county circuit judge Thomas Sholts also extended Lindsey's three-year probation on a separate molestation conviction to 10 years. (AP)

Racial discrimination settled: The US Federal Bureau of Investigation settled racial dis-crimination complaints by two black employees in cities where black agent Donald Rochon claims he was harassed by white colleagues, private attorneys said Thursday.

Attorneys for Leadell Lee, an agent assigned to the Chicago field office, and Gertie Armstrong, a clerk in Omaha, Nebraska, said they reached separate settlements of the complaints last summer.

The attorney who represents Rochon hailed the settlements as a vindiction of his client's claims he was the vicinia of rocal harmstrong.

the victim of racial harassament in Omaha and

will resound with music both morning and night on the 100th anniversary of its first concert, with one big name in classical music after another promising to Organisers announced plans Wednesday for a

Anniversary celebration: Carnegie Hall

season of special concerts to mark the passage of a century since the May 5, 1891, opening concert at the hall. They will culminate in an all-day gala on that concert at the hall. They will culminate in an all-day gala on that concert's 100th anniversary.

Violinist Isaac Stern, who is also Carnegie Hall

president, said the hall's 1990-91 season will be "probably the most extraordinary season that any hall has ever had." (AP)

Anti-bigotry memo issued: The head of CBS Records has jumped into the controversy over racism and anti-Semitism in rock lyrics, calling upon his employees to ensure that "none of our recordings promote bigotry."

In a memorandum dated Wednesday, Walter Yetnikoff did not name Public Enemy, the rap group whose newest record, "Welcome To The Terror-dome," has been assailed as anti-Semitic. CBS Records distributes the record.

But he did refer to a number of recent recordings that "have stirred strong reactions outside and within the industry suggesting that these songs validate and promote bigotry and intolerance." (AP)

counties dropped programme: More than 100 counties in 30 states are being dropped from a 124.9-million-dollar homeless aid programme created by Congress, while advocacy groups charge a mounting increase in the number of Americans without adequate shelter. "You don't suddenly become a non-needy area," said congressman Paul Kanjorski. "There ought to be a way to come down slowly."

The National Alliance to End Homelessness, a

private research and assistance groups, estimates that as many as 2 million people are homeless for at least a portion of the year, and the number seems to be growing. (AP)

FBI closes investigation: The US Federal Bureau of Investigation confirmed Thursday it had closed an investigation in the state of Utah of fraud allegations against the manufacturer of the solidrocket motors for the ill-fated space shuttle Challen-

The investigation dealt with allegations that Thiokol Corp. falsified safety data and withheld information from the space agency following the 1986 Challenger explosion that killed seven astron-

Death fordrug lords sought

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (UPI): Federal anti-drug chief William Benett recommends in his new narcotic strategy that drug kingpins receive the death sentence even if they are not involved in a murder. an administration official said yesterday.
The official also said that while

final figures have not been completed, Bennett's proposed drugfighting package is expected to total \$10 billion to \$11 billion, about a 10 per cent increase over current spending.
In addition, said the official

spoke on the condition of anonymity, the strategy would designate Miami. Los Angeles, New York City and Houston as "high-intensity drug trafficking

Such designations would enti-tle them to additional federal ass-istance. But the official said since there is less than \$25 million in the discretionary fund, the cities would get relatively little.

Bennett's so-called drug strategy 2 will be an update of the congressionally imposed plan that President George Bush announced in September.

That one increased the war on all froms - education, treatment, interdiction and law enforcement - although a wide range of critics still complained that it was inadequate to combat a worsening narcolic crisis.

The White House's domestic policy council has reviewed the new proposal that was to be presented to Bush today. The plan is to be announced Jan 29. the same day the President sends his proposed 1991 budget to Congress. The administration official

confirmed a report yesterday in the Washington Post that Bennett proposes to impose the death penalty on major drug kingpins, even if they or their organisations are not involved directly in a murder.

"You can assume that a drug network, with all its distributors and action, cause a homicide somewhere along the line," the official said: "This proposal

would be an extension of the of felony murder rule." Under that rule, if someone is involved in a crime where a murder occurs, even if they are not

they could receive the death sen-The official said Bush is expected to endorse Bennett's proposal, but that it may likely

run into resistance on Capitol The United States proposal to be discussed at next months drug summit includes proposed reductions in foreign debt to. compensate South American nations for lost income from

cocaine production. The economic programmes proposed by the United States to Peru, Colombia and Bolivia also would give trade preferences to products from the three countries to compensate for the billions of dollars that would be lost from reduced cocaine

Successful drug policy

production.

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (AP): A US embassy report from The Hague on the Dutch drug problem takes the controversial view that the United States could learn from a system where marijuana is legal and drug abuse is treated as a health problem.
The report, dated May 26, 1989, and made available to the Associated

Press this week, says: "In light of our own problems, a goal for US policymakers might be an educational one. "It is unlikely that many elements of Dutch drug policy successfully could be wrenched out of their social and cultural contexts," the report says. "However, certain of the

mechanics such as low-threshold therapy, mobile treatment units, and needle exchange might well be adap-table to the American reality." The Netherlands' policy generally is strict law enforcement against hard

drugs such as cocaine, heroin, LSD, amphetamines and hash oil, and drug trafficking to which Holland has been vulnerable; official tolerance of soft drugs such as marijuana and hashish and decriminalisation of users.

String of thefts puts Monaco's safe haven image into jeopardy

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MONACO, (Reuter): By big city standards, Monaco's crime rate is miniscule, but a string of thefts and break-ins has the principality's high society in a state of high anxiety. For Monaco has a cherished

image as the millionaire's safe

haven, one of the few places in the

world where a woman wearing

the family jewels can walk the

streets at night without fear.

Press reports say Monaco's ruler Prince Rainier is angry at his police force, described by its own commissioner in happier days as "an elite force for an elite community. Rainier has reason to be concerned.

Last July thieves removed an

18th-century painting belonging

to the prince from the Salle Gar-

nier opera house, brimming with

high-technology security de-

The painting has since been recovered and one person arrested in connection with the theft. but the incident has added to the worries of residents who boast that Monaco is the safest place in

the world. "The principality's reputation is at stake," palace spokeswoman Mireille Rebaudo told

Following a holdup in a jewellery shop in November, the third in 1989 after a previous average of barely one a year, Rainier asked French Interior Minister Pierre Joxe for a report on police operations.

Under a 1962 treaty, the head of Monaco's police is a high-ranking French civil servant. Residents of Monaco, situated

between Italy and France on the Mediterranean coast, were stunned recently by a night robbery near the famous casino, almost under the noses of duty police.

Three gangsters used clubs to

smash the windows of a luxury boutique before relieving the owners of jewellery worth one million francs (\$600,000).

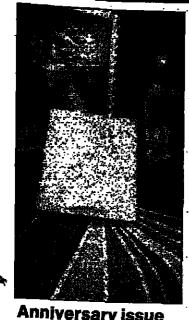
The gang escaped in a car. No one has been arrested.

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Anniversary issue

Stamp designer Jeffrey Matthews poses with a blow-up of a black 20p stamp, one of five with the head of Queen Victoria and the Queen being issued by the Royal Mail, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Penny Black stamp. He is holding the original cast of the Queen's head used on all stamps since 1967. (Reuter wirephoto)

Khmer Rouge

Trial call gaining support

SYDNEY, Jan 12, (Reuter): The Australian government, prime mover of a Cambodian peace plan now gaining international support, today said there were many legal obstacles to bringing Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot to trial on charges of genocide.

A spokesman for Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said, however, that Australia would continue to explore ways to bring Khmer Rouge leaders to justice, but would also ensure that the case against them would stand up in a world court.

Pol Pot and his deputies have been blamed internationally for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during their three-year rule from

The spokesman was commenting on mounting domestic pressure to take international court action against the Khmer Rouge leaders, whose fartfon 48 2 dominant force in a ceasing holding the Cambodian seat in

Australia's conservative opposition said today it would initiate international action against the Khmer Rouge leaders if it won the federal election, due before mid-May.

The opposition has an even chance of winning the elections against the Labour Party, according to latest public opinion polls.

Opposition foreign affairs spokesman Robert Hill said a Liberal-national government would ensure the Khmer Rouge leaders played no role in a future

Phnom Penh administration. Yesterday the Australian section of the International Commission of Jurists, a Genevabased human rights body of lawyers, called for the "Pol Pot Khmer Rouge leadership and hierarchy" to be put on trial as part of the Australian peace

proposal.

Commission lawyer Daniel Brezniak, who has just returned from Cambodia, told reporters the Khmer Rouge leadership should be brought before a widely accepted world tribunal to destroy its credibility.

■ China and the Soviet Union, meeting days before a UN conference on Cambodia, agree that the United Nations should play a major role in settling the Cambodian conflict, a senior Soviet official said today.

■ Government troops have established themselves "masters of the battlefield" in northwestern Cambodia, killing 69 guerrillas in clashes in early January. Phnom Penh radio said.

Cambodian guernillas claimed today they struck the cross-country route 5, hampering government transportation, and seized outposts near the fabled temples of Angkor Wat. Neither claim could be verified

by sources in Thailand, and the media of the Vietnamese-installed government has claimed its forces have routed the guerrillas in recent fighting.

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UK, China disagree on HK

BEUING, Jan 12, (UPI): The British governor of Hong Kong ended a visit to Beijing today after talks with Chinese officials on the territory's future, calling the sessions "sensible" and saying he warned Britain would not retreat from

support for human rights.
Sir David Wilson acknowledged both sides continue to disagree on certain issues, but stressed he explained "the whole range of opinions of the people of Hong Kong" to

the Chinese.

"We had serious, down-to-earth, sensible talks about a variety of problems," Wilson told reporters at the Beijing airport before returning to Hong Kong.

Since the Chinese crackdown on the pro-democracy movement last year, Sino-British relations have become strained over the thorny issue of Hong Kong, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997. The trip was Wilson's first to Beijing since the violence last June:

China has pledged to allow Hong Kong to retain its capitalist way of life for 50 years after 1997 under a "one country, two systems policy, but the crackdown on dissent has intensified fears among Hong Kong Chinese and

speeded an exodus from the territory.

Talks over the future government of Hong Kong have bogged down in quarrels over basic rights, with China warning it will not allow Hong Kong to serve as a base for

'subversion" by pro-democracy activists.
Wilson said the subversion issue had been raised. He added that while Britain does not want Hong Kong to ecome a "battlefield against China," he made it clear to the Chinese that human rights guaranteed by Hong Kong

The governor met with Chinese Premier Li Peng. Vice-Foreign Minister Zhou Nan, and other top officials con-cerned with Hong Kong affairs during his three-day visit.

Wilson did not indicate what if any agreement was reached between Britain and China over the fate of the socalled basic law, Hong Kong's post-1997 mini-constitu-tion, which is to be published in March.

At issue is the number of directly elected seats to the Hong Kong territorial legislative council in 1991 and a controversial bill of rights.

Sino-British relations have also been clouded by China's rejection of Britain's decision to grant citizenship to

225,000 Hong Kong citizens.

■ British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd begins his four-day visit to Hong Kong tomorrow with the colony facing its gravest political crisis in more than 20 years. Two British parliamentarians returning from a fact-finding trip to Victnam said there was no evidence that Victnamese boat people repatriated from Hong Kong last month had been mistreated since being sent home.



Wilson (L) gestures as he addresses journalists along with Nan (R). (Reuter wirephoto)

Elderly Japanese emerge

Wartime blind loyalty unnerves many

TOKYO, Jan 12, (AP): Two elderly Japanese have emerged from 45 years of guerrilla warfare in the jungles of southeast Asia, the latest in a series of Japanese for whom World War II stret-

ched on for decades.
Shigeyuki Hashimoto, now
71, and Kiyoaki Tanaka, 77, were employees of a Japanese company in Malaysia at the end of the war, but joined Commun-ist guerrillas fighting for independence from Britain, one of Japan's former enemies, rather than return home.

The group, the Communist Party of Malaya, continued its insurgency after the country became independent in 1957, but officially laid down its arms last Dec 2 when it signed a peace accord with Malaysian and Thai Hashimoto and Tanaka, who

return to Tokyo on Saturday, are unlikely to get the massive hero's welcome given to Japan's most famous World War II holdouts, Sgt Shoichi Yokoi and Lt Hiroo Onoda, when they emerged in 1972 and 1974 respectively.
Friends plan welcoming ceremonies for the two, but many

Japanese are uncomfortable with the issues of blind dedication and loyalty raised by the men's return. Wartime Japanese were

taught to be loyal to the nation and emperor, and soldiers were trained to obey a code that said death was preferable to surren-

In interviews televised here.
Tanaka and Hashinoto said: they felt a responsibility to stay and help the guerrillas because of Japan's wartime claim to be saving Asia from European domin-

ance.
"We thought Malaysians would think we were taking advantage of them if we let Britain reclaim their country," Hashimoto said. .

Japan's Ministry of Health and Welfare is still investigating the cases of 48 former Japanese soldiers who could be living in the vast areas of Asia controlled by Japan during the war.

The best-known holdout. Lt Hiroo Onoda, left the Philippine jungle on his 52nd birthday in

He refused to give up, despite at least four searches by Japanese officials in which family members appealed to him over loudspeakers and leaflets were dropped from airplanes calling on him to surrender.

Onoda later said he did not give up because no one had reversed his order — until his former commander, Maj. Yoshimi Taniguchi, travelled to the Philippines and ordered him to come

In his formal surrender to then president Ferdinand Marcos, broadcast on national Japanese television. Onoda wore his 30year-old imperial army uniform, cap and sword, all still in good

After returning home, Onoda decided he did not have the skills to live in modern Japanese society and moved to Brazil, where he danced in discotheques, got married and lived on a ranch.

"I do not consider those 30 years a waste of time," be said. "I was ordered to go there and I carried out the orders to the best of my ability."

A member of Onoda's platoon, PFC. Shinichi Kozuka, was shot dead in 1972 after he and Onoda fired on a Philippine constabulary patrol on Lubang Island. People there blamed the two for killing at least 21 people. injuring more than a dozen others, and burning crops apparently in an attempt to aid Japan's war effort.



Tanaka (C) and Hashimoto (L) and his daughter Seiko Kitayama, who came from Japan at a press conference. (Reuter wirephoto)

Betrothal gifts delivered

l accept: Kawashima

graduate student, accepted symbolic gifts from the imperial Palace today, formally sealing her engagement to Emperor Akthito's son, Prince Aya.

"I humbly state my acceptance," said Miss K awashima, clad in a pink kimodo and gold said, as imperial chamberlain Y asuo Shigeta presented her with a list of the gifts.

The gifts, which included six bottles of rice wine and three bolts of silken cloth, had been taken to the Kawa-

Miss Kawashima and Prince Aya, who is second in line to the throne after his elder brother, are to be married in late June, and the government plans to spend just under \$1 million for the lavish ceremony and reception

It will be the first royal marriage since 1984 and is

expected to be a welcome respite after a year of mourning Emperor Hirohito's death last January.

Today's ceremony, which lasted less than one hour, was to be followed later in the day by courtesy calls on the Emperor, Empress Michiko and Aya by government

Shigeta clad in black morning coat and carrying a silk top hat; arrived at the Kawashima residence late this

Miss Kawashima's father teaches economics.

Aya and Miss Kawashima, who is studying post-graduate level pyschology, first met at the university in 1985. Aya, 24, is to complete postgraduate studies in zoology at Oxford in early June. He is scheduled to return to England on Sunday. Shigeta was received in the guest room of the four-room

apartment by Miss Kawashima and her father, Tatsuhiko, and mother, Kazuyo. Because of her commoner background, Miss Kawashima, 23, has been nicknamed "the apartment princess.

officials, including heads of the législature and supreme

top har, arrived at the Rawashima residence late thas morning. His limousine had not police escort, and was slighthed layer by traffic unitoon of the control of the contro

Friday when their bus hit a land mine near the Thai border, border patrol police said. Man travels across world to see.

COUSIN: Albin Birch left London on the trip of a lifetime to find a New Zealand cousin he had not seen for 30 years — but instead found a month-old corpse. Albin's 82-year-old cousin Bennett Birch lived as a recluse 19,000 km (12,000 miles) away in New Zealand's subtropical far north.

But Albin discovered him dead when he arrived at

s home on Thursday in the remote settlement of Takehe. (Reuter) Library to include Watergate tanes: Even former US President Richard M. Nixon agreed

that the library honouring him would not be com-plete without a mention of Watergate. So the new will include not only a Watergate room, but some of the recorded telephone and conversation tapes revealing the former president's role in the scandal cover-up that led to his downfall, library officials said. (AP)

Japan plans to send satellites: Japan hopes to become the world's third hmar power this month when it launches a spacecraft into orbit around the moon. The Muses-A, to be launched from Kagoshima in

southern Japan on Jan 23, will carry two satellites.
They are to intercept the moon's orbit on March 20 and separate, with one orbiting the moon and the other circling Earth. (Reuter)

Two near-misses reported: Military fighpassenger jets in separate incidents over southern Japan this week, a Fransport Ministry official said Friday. ter jets flew within 150 metres (500 feet) of two

The official, who requested anonymity, said the first occurred Wednesday, when an unidentified F-15 fighter came within 150 metres of a Japan Airlines DC-10 flying near Naha airport on Okinawa island. He said the pilot of the JAL flight, which left Naha for Osaka in western Japan, was forced to steer to his right and pass below the fighter to avoid a collision.

Bus hits land mine, 8 killed: Eight Burmese were killed and 11 others seriously wounded The bus was taking 30 passengers from Kaw Ka Rek to Myawadi, two nearby towns, when it struck the mine 15 kilometres (10 miles) from Myawadi, an

He said two passengers were killed instantly and six others died later. The injured passengers were sent to a Burmese hospital and to a Thai hospital in Mae Sot, a town in Tak province just opposite Myawadi, he said. (AP)

Killer epidemic spreading: Indian rights activists say more than half of the Yanomami Indians hving near a gold digging area in the Amazon have died and killer epidemics could spread to other

A Brazilian government decision on Tuesday to let about 40,000 gold prospectors stay in the Amazon territory of Roraima has provoked a furore.

Indian rights campaigners say the decision amounts to genocide since the Yanomami are dying of Malaria and other diseases brought by the prospectors, who are also poisoning the rivers with mer-

Chile disbands secret police: The military junta has dissolved the feared secret police of President Augusto Pinochet, which has been accused

of widespread human rights abuses.

Adm. Jose Merino, president of the junta, said it passed a law Thursday under which agents of the clandestine police force will be sent back to the armed forces branches from which they were assigned.

The junta is made up of the commanders of the navy, air force and national police and a representative of the army appointed by Gen. Pinochet, president and army commander. It acts as legislature for his 16-year-old administration. (AP)

Threatened with injunction: A federal prosecutor has threatened to bring an injunction against a police chief for not carrying out a government order to remove illegal gold miners from jungle land claimed by an Amazon Indian tribe. The move was the latest development in a con-

troversy between the miners and those who want to protect the tribe and the rain forest, which have been devastated by the miners.

Kimmay visit N. Korea for talks

SEOUL, Jan 12, (AP): Leading South Korean opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung said today he may visit communist North Korea to discuss national unification and ways to ease tension on the divided Korean peninsula.

If Kim makes the visit, he would be the first South Korean political leader since the 1950-53 Korean war to visit the communist North.

"The visit will be by myself or with a party delegation," Kim. told reporters.

Kim, head of the largest opposition political group, the Party for Peace and Democracy, said the visit would be arranged with government approval. An unauthorised visit to North Korea would violate national security laws.

Kim declined to elaborate on his plans and said he would announce further details at a news conference next Wednes-

day.

The opposition leader said he raised the possibility of a trip in talks with President Roh Tae-Woo yesterday. He said Roh responded favourably.

If Kim visits the North Korean

capital of Pyongyang, party officials said he would expect to contact officials of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party and government leaders. Party officials said the visit may take place in the first half of this year.

- Aides to Kim said the primary purpose would be to meet North Korean President Kim Il Sung phere for an inter-Korea sum-

Roh has proposed a face-to-face meeting with Kim Il Sung several times during the past two years, but his suggestion has not been answered. Two days ago, Roh told a nationally televised news conference that he wanted to meet the two longtime

In a New Year's speech, North Korean leader Kim Il Sung invited Roh and South Korean opposition leaders to the North for unification talks. Government officials said the invitation was a ploy to lump Roh and opposition leaders in the same category, thus not recognising Roh as South Korea's leader.

Government officials said Kim Dae-Jung's indictment on charges related to an opposition lawmaker's secret trip to North Korea would not pose a problem to his plans.

■ US Defence Secretary Richard Cheney is not expected to present any figure for a possible US troop cut when he visits South Korea next month, Seoul newspapers reported today.

Quoting South Korean Defence Minister Lee Sang-Hoon, the newspapers said the main purpose of Cheney's scheduled visit Feb 14-17 is to learn more about the level of the US military presence in South

Communist North Korea, alarmed by sweeping changes in East Europe, appears to have cancelled a plan to allow its people to travel more freely at home, Seoul newspapers reported yes-

Quoting an unidentified senior government intelligence official, most newspapers publi-shed in Seoul reported North Korea originally planned to ease domestic travel restrictions for its people effective Jan 15 but the plan was cancelled recently.

China slaps demo curbs

New rules for Beijing

BEIJING, Jan 12, (Reuter): China today published stringent new rules on demonstrations in Beijing, reinforcing its defences against possible unrest one day after martial law was lifted.

Authorities have also drawn up new regulations saying what foreign journalists can and can-not do. The official media gave no indication of what they were, but said they would be promulgated soon.

The activities of foreign journalists were severely curtailed duirng nearly eight months of martial law in the capital.

The Beijing Daily, mouthpiece of the Capital's municipal Communist Party leadership, said on its front page that permission for any demonstration or assembly in certain sensitive areas of the capital must be obtained from the city or national government.

"Of course nobody will be granted permission for any kind of protest" said one Chinese office worker. "This is a ban."

The newspaper said the sensitive areas included Tiananmen Square, the Zhonhganhai compound where China's leaders live and work and central government offices together with their immediate surroundings to a distance of 300 metres.

The rule also affects unspecified military installations. "The central military commission can inform people where the important military-installations

are," the newspaper said.

The new regulations heighten a ban on demonstrations in Beiiing without prior permission, imposed last month. That decree stipulated that would-be demonstrators get permits from their local public security bureau — a lower level of authority than now required.

Premier Li Peng on Wednesday announced the end of martial law, in force here since May 20 last year, and at midnight that night troops and armed police

marched off Tiananmen Square. But the people's Armed Police were placed on top alert throughout the capital. Plainclothes security men mingled with swelling crowds in Tiananmen and suppressed sporadic acts of defiance.

In the most defiant incident yesterday, the first day of the end to nearly eight months of martial law, witnesses said two people were detained for trying to lay a wreath at the square in memory of victims of the crackdown on last year's democracy move-

The Beijing public security confirmed the incident but said the two were "mental patients" who would be released to their families. Foreign witnesses reported at least two other incidents in which police took people from the square during the day.

China has dismissed two senior news executives to tighten the grip of political leaders on the nation's official media.

The director of the Legal Daily, one of the nation's largest newspapers and a prominent supporters of law reform, has been replaced along with the editor-in-chief of the Literary and Art Gazette, Chinese jour-

nalists said today. Legal Daily director Guan Zhihao, 59, an ally of the late reformist leader Hu Yaobang, has been replaced by Lu Fengyi, a senior official at the Justice

Ministry. Literary and Art Gazette editor Xie Yongwang has been succeeded by Zheng Bonong, a political theoretician. Zheng has

not yet officially taken over his new duties but the move has been announced to staff members. Guan and Xie were sacked because their staffs took part in

massive pro-democracy protests crushed by the army in June, according to the journalists.



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Woman carves a niche in male-dominated Japanese police force

TOKYO, (Reuter): A plain clothes police officer grabs a pickpocket on a packed Tokyo subway and waves a rescued wallet before a group of admiring commuters. All eyes gaze at a Japanese rarity — a polic-

Jeans-clad Kazuyo Motoki, 36, coolly clasps handcuffs on the pleading thief as he nurses scratches from her lingernails. The handcuffs came from her small pink cosmetics bag. Motoki, a mother of two, is the only woman

in the detective department at Tokyo's Shibuya

district police headquarters.

A black beit in judo, Motoki has been a policewoman for 17 years and has earned the somewhat grudging respect of male colleagues in what is still very much a man's world.

"She is more like a man in many ways, That's why she's such a good detective," said Osamu Tamura, deputy chief at the Shibuya police

station.
But even for a much-commended detective, ome chores remain women's work in Japan. Motoki is often found serving coffee and tea to the 60 people who work on her floor.

When it comes to tea, women are not yet

equal to men in Japan. It is one tradition that will take a long time to break," she said.

Of the 452 employees at the Shibuya station,
22 other than Motoki are women — 15 control

traffic and seven control paperwork. Motoki said that, although she is almost always treated as an equal, barriers remain. "I have to work with men so I have to work even

"A woman will not be able to climb as far up, the career ladder as a man. You can get to a certain point, then there is a limit," she said. The highest-ranking policewoman in Tokyo

is chief of the subsection that deals with minors. "I always longed to be a policewoman. I didn't want to be strapped to a chair with deskwork. I wanted a job I could move around with," said Motoki, flashing a characteristically

Motoki passed the police entrance exam when she was 18. She started her career in the traffic division and moved on to be a guard at a detention centre

Then she found her niche — catching pick-

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This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified

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card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

Bingo, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270. 13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

HPC to meet on Jan 17

THE Higher Planning Council will hold its 3rd meeting of its present session next Wednesday under the chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla Al Salem.

Fuad Mulla Hussein, secretary general of the council said that the council will discuss three main questions during the

meeting.
The first related to a study by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) pertaining to the establishment of a complex to produce petrochemicals in Shuaiba industrial area.

The special committee (the economic committee) at the council, headed by Dr Moham-med Al Sabah studied the project in the two previous meetings attended by the Minister of Oil and senior officials of KPC.

The second issue will be reviewed by the council and relates to the memo submitted by social services committee on results and recommendations of the study undertaken about the negative new morals and behaviours that have manifested themselves recently in Kuwaiti society. The study was conducted by a num-ber of Kuwaiti specialists from Kuwait University and field researchers in co-operation with the serectariat of the Higher Planning Council.

The third, will be the discussion on the strategy of developing manpower and its main elements which are population, education and training.

1,401 cases of poisoning last year

HOSPITALS of the Ministry of Public Health (MPH) received 1,401 cases of patients admitted for treatment of poisoning dur-ing 1988, Dr Abdullah Asad, director of Pharmaceutical Services Department at the ministry said.

In a study published recently.
Asad said that 22 cases resulted in fatalities which accounted for two per cent of cases admitted.

The official added that toxic cases had showed a steady increase from the year 1984 which recorded 941 cases and increased to 1,641 in 1986. He disclosed that 58 per cent of

these cases were reported child victims and that in 1988 there were 918 poisoning cases among children compared to 1,083 in 1987. The official attributed 51 of poisoning cases among children had been caused due to imbibing medicines.

Statistics indicated that most poisoning cases were recorded in February and September with the lowest in January and August.

About 68 per cent of poisoning cases among adults were repor-ted by females. Al Jahra Governorate had the highest number of poisoning cases amounting to 109 for every 100,000 inhabitants and Mubarak health area recorded the least -46 cases for every 100.000.

Meanwhile the study called for concerted efforts to minimise poisoning cases by adopting recommendations several including setting up of a special programme for combatting such cases, the development of a Toxic Data Centre by enhancing cooperation between the centre and the treatment centres in the health area and to have medicines packed in child tamper-proof packings.

THE present five-year-plan 1990/1995 of the Public Housing

Authority (PHA) will require

about KD1,031 billion, Ali Al

Fouzan, assistant director general of the PHA said and added

that he expected the budget of the

housing projects for 1990/1991

The PHA will use the previous

designs of houses at Rabia, Ourain and Jahra housing

projects to proceed with the

present plan at Umm Al Himan

Speaking of the present five-

year plan, the official said that it

includes the building of 300 flats

(200 in Jahra and 100 in Umm Al

Himan) with an area of 200

only three floors and the auth-

ority is working in co-operation

with KOC and municipality to

The building will consist of

square metres each.

Area.

to cost about KD120 million.

KD120m housing

project for 90-91



Number of private schools increasing

Dr Sharrah stresses on legislation

THE number of private schools is increasing due to the increase of pupils in the private sector and will continue increasing as long as the expatriate population in Kuwait increases, Dr Yacoub Al Sharrah assistant undersecretary at the Ministry of Education for private education said.

Speaking at a seminar held at the Teachers' Society about the future of private education in Kuwait, the official said that 36 per cent of pupils in Kuwait are studying in private schools and anticipated that Kuwait need 25 to 30 private schools in the near

He added that government education is restricted to Kuwaitis and some exempted categories of non-Kuwaities which give private education a place of special importance. However, he clarified that Kuwait's policy aims at offering educational opportunities for citizens and expatriates in

Sharrah commented that competition between government and private schools will increase and the same scene will occur among private schools them-

Though the state supports private education, the official called for serious planning to solve problems of opening private schools. The absence of planning has led to the increase of these schools in certain areas and disappearance in other areas. This imbalance of schools in certain areas and increase in others has contributed to traffic congestions in areas that have too many schools, Sharrah said.

He added that expansion in private schools should be accompanied with reconsidering the legislations of the private education. There should be new legislations and charters to govern the functions of private education, the official said.

Al Jameel School, Hafez Al Khabbaz called to grant more freedom for private schools by developing their laws and regula-tions. He added that private schools should be controlled by the state to prevent conversion to commercial projects. We should stressed on the educational and scientific role of the private schools, he said.

Dr Abdul Aziz Al Ghanim from faculty of education at Kuwait University speaking in the name of sponsors of students in private schools, said that a field study made on private schools showed that sponsors were satisfied in general to the educational standards of these schools. But he added that these standards are different due to the quality of buildings and standard of teachers. He called for a liason between school and guardian of students. He added that private



Indonesian delegation

Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Khalid Ahmed Al Jassar received at his office Indonesian Islamic 'Muhammadian' Society's delegation on the occasion of their current visit to Kuwait. Jassar and members of the delegation exchanged viewpoints on the society's activities for Islamic cause through its schools, hospitals and institutes located all over the Republic of Indonesia. Jassar also discussed with the delegation Kuwait's contribution in supporting the Islamic activities of the society. The 'Muhammadian': Society is one of the biggest Islamic societies in Indonesia and the world.

Kuwait Medical Society rejects working hours

THE Chairman of Kuwait Medical Society, Dr. Abdullah Al Rushaid has absolutely rejected the working hours for hospitals which were suggested recently by the ministry.

In an interview with a local daily Rushaid said

that the proposed system does not comply with the social life and the climate in Kuwait.

He disclosed that the Medical Studies Higher Committee has discussed this issue several years ago and the society had expressed its opposition.

study the sites required for housing projects of the present plan.

Available lands in the present

plan can accommodate only

12,000 housing units — while the

plan aims at building 28,000

units. The most serious problem

for the authority is the limited

unit's during last year that included 2,976 houses and 1,508

land allotments. It also dis-

tributed 4,167 houses, land allot-

ments and flats during the same

year. It also built four mosques, 25 schools, 3 groups of shops,

suburb centre, a health centre

and 258 power transferring sta-

24 schools, 13 groups of shops,

two power transferring stations,

4 suburb centres, two health cen-

tres and two police stations will

be built during this year by PHA.

He expected that 18 mosques,

tions last year.

The PHA built, 4,484 housing

land required for housing.

He said that the society's attitude in this connection is obvious and rejected the pertinent sugges-tions being adopted by a number of some employees at the Faculty of Medicine, adding that this system is not responding to the public interest at all.

He said that when the society called for developing of the health and medical service, this does not infer that the society would accept an increase in working hours. Any development in the health service should not be done at the expense of the physicians, Rushaid said.

Plan to! develop pharma

A GRADUATION ceremony was held yesterday at the Islamic Medicine Centre for the distribution of certificates to successful participants of the second training course for the higher diploma in the field of clinical pharmacy? The ceremony was held under the auspices of the Kuwait's Mini-ster of Planning the Acting Mini-ster of Public Health, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi.

Dr Abdullah Al Rifaei, secretary-general of Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisation speaking at the ceremony said that the institute is planning to develop the pharmaceutical services and upgrading the per-formance level of employees

working in the area.

The official said that the institute is striving to confer the M.A. degree inclinical pharmacy and expressed the hope that new specialisations will be set up at the institute including industrial pharmacy.

He said that the role of the pharmacist is not only to dispense medicines to patients, but calls for assisting the doctor in the pathology process in addi-tion to having sound knowledge of the side effects of various medicines dispensed. He commented that the MPW pays considerable attention to the technical and commercial developments of medicine and urged pharmacists to develop their capabilities through continued education to keep abreast with the latest technology in this field.

Meanwhile, Dr Ahmed Al Duaij, director of Pharmaceutical Services Development at Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisations called for accelerating the setting up of the Faculty of Pharmacy. He disclosed that the absence of this faculty at Kuwait University had resulted in shortage of Kuwaiti pharmacists.

Meanwhile, Duaij confirmed the importance of co-operation with the Kuwait University and other scientific-institutions -towards:upgrading:the:performance level of employees working in the pharmaceutical field.

Referring to the training course patronised by the minister of planning and acting minister of public health. Duaij said that this training course aims at preparing of pharmacists in the clinical pharmacy field. He added that the course covered 10 scientific topics relating to the clinical field in addition to practical training at the ministry hospitals.

The institute is planning to cooperate with the University of Belfast for conferring of pharmaceutical degrees, Duzij said.

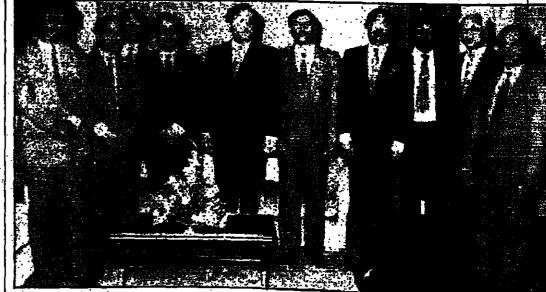
Two sentenced for trafficking

THE Criminal court sentenced two men to five years in fail and ordered that they each pay a fine of KD200 for trafficking in nar-

Securitymen had kept the two under surveillance and were successful in striking up a deal with one of the accused to purchase a

quantity of heroin. On finalising of the deal with an undercover agent, securitymen arrested one of the accused and recovered the marked money.

On interrogation, the accused pointed out the residence of his accomplice. A raid of the premises revealed a quantity of drugs, along with other para-phernalia. The second accused was subsequently arrested.



Bangladesh Association memorandum

The Bangladesh Association, Kuwait, submitted a memorandum to Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud during his recent visit to Kuwait. The memorandum urged the Biman Bangladesh Airlines to carry dead bodies at a flat rate of KD100. They also asked the airline to introduce direct flights between Kuwait and Dhaka. At present, Biman operates flights to Dhaka via Sharjah. They also urged the government

to train unskilled labourers so that they are not brought to Kuwait at a low salary; sometimes as low

Picture above shows association officials with Mahmud (sixth left), the Bangladesh Ambassador K.M. Shehabuddin and other empassy officers.

(Photo by Javed Basra)



Kuwait to lift media censorship

(Continued from Page 1)

of the visit, the Kuwaiti leader said visits by Arab leaders to Arab capitals help construct similar policies toward issues challenging Arab countries while exchanging views on developing matters broadens understanding He commended the role

played by Egyptian government and people in extending assisin tance and defending Arab Causes, especially the Palestinian

During the talks, the Egyptian and Kuwaiti sides broadly agreed to bring closer views, stands and actions of both governments toward issues and matters in order to improve Arab image internally and externally, be noted.

"We in Kuwait, emanating from the principle of bilateral copopular lines, have the enth-... usiasm and desire to co-operate with our brothers in Egypt in various fields." Sheikh Saad

Kuwait severed its relations with Egypt in compliance with a middecision by the Arab summit in 1979 when Cairo signed a peace the treaty with Israel. The relations were restored in November 1987 after Arab leaders agreed to in allow individual countries to resume relations with Cairo if they chose to do so.

Sheikh Saad also hoped that the current efforts exerted by ובור Iraq and Iran would reach an agreement that would prevent the eight-year war from re-crupt-ing and restores peace and stability to the Gulf region.

As for the Palestinian question, the Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Premier saluted the intifada. which he believed would go on until the Palestinian people restore their inalienable rights.

Replying to a question on whether it is high time for Kuwaiti investments in Egypt in light of his talks here, the Crown Prince expressed his country's --- desire to enhance co-operation with Egypt and said that the two countries trade ministers signed span agreement on establishing commercial centres in Kuwait In and Cairo.

The Crown Prince added that director of the Kuwait Development Fund has signed a memo to implement Kuwait's proposals about extending a loan to Egypt to finance manufacture of polyester, adding that once study of the project is finalized, the fund would contribute to the financing of this vital scheme.

Asked about the three Arab groupings, the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) and the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), Sheikh Saad said they are tributaries that feed the main Arab stream, which ultimately seek talking in unison and rallying Arab ranks.

On Kuwait's stance on peace negotiations between Iraq and Iran, he said it has been clear both in the past and at present by envisaging a state of permanent peace between the two neigh-bours and prevalence of durable peace and stability in the Arab

∍nte™

TICK! :

.... Gulf region. Sheikh Saad indicated that the stance has been made quite clear to officials in Iran and renewed his appeal to Tehran "to respond, as Iraq did, to Security Council resolution 598". He hoped that Iraq and Iran would reach a formula that would ensure tranquility and completely eliminates the spectre of war' from the region.

Strange tree in Hawalli

A STRANGE tree that grew behind a building in riswalli area bas reportedly been the cause of sending two ladies, who ate its fruit, to the intensive care unit.

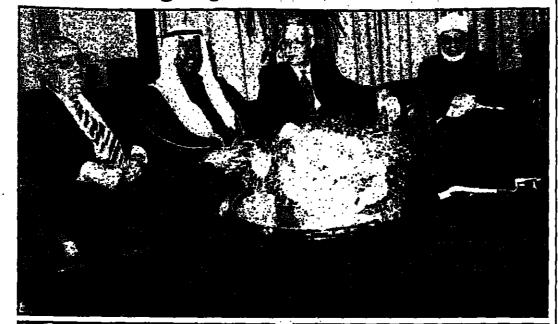
According to one of the victims, identified as Sabiha Mahmond, she was informed by her neighbour identified as Fiddiya Awadh that the fruit of the tree tasted very good and recon a sweet tasting fruit.

ital, where immediate treatment to induce vomitting and pumping of her stomach were resorted to in an attempt to get rid of the toxic sub-

She was kept under observation for 12 hours and then released. However, Fiddiya who had consumed a larger quantity of the fruit from the same tree has been transferred to the intensive care at the Muharak Al Kabeer Hospital. Investigations of the fruit of this tree have revealed that the fruit contains narcotic substances which caused the symptoms of the

two patients.

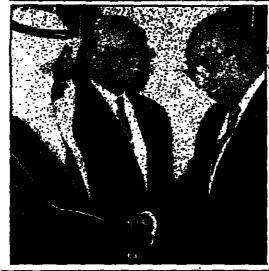
Pictorial highlights of Premier's Cairo trip













Quranic illustrations can spark Rushdie-type furore

A PROMINENT Islamic scholar has warned that the reported French publication of a book using drawings to interpret the Holy Quran could spark a furore like the outery over Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses," a

newspaper said yesterday.

The work of Yousuf Siddige, a Tunisian who has lived in

Paris since 1983, on Islam's holy book was denounced by Mohammed Faidallah, head of Islamic Jurisprudence at Kuwait University's Islamic Studies Faculty.
"The interpretation of Quranic verses by using illus-

trative drawings is banned in Islam and cannot be sanc-tioned by Islamic teachings," Faidallah told a local daily.

"These sinister ideas are tantamount to criminal acts that ridicule the sanctity of the Holy Quran. It is an impovation that should be condemned," he added.

He was commenting on a report by the Paris newspaper Le Monde that a French publishing house has started printing the first part of the book in Arabic and French,

designed for youngsters aged between 12 and 16.
"We don't rule out the possibility of anti-Islamic groups being behind, and financing, such sinister schemes," Faidallah said. He branded Siddige "a new Salman Rushdie recruited to carry out this ugly task."

Action Line

I AM a Filipino, presently working here in Kuwait as a domestic helper. I have a friend in the US who owns a home for the aged and retarded persons. She is hiring an employee and wanted to help me by going there to work with her. Is there a possibility for me to go to the US and work there? Can I cross country? I mean, instead of going to the Philippines, can I proceed to the US from Kuwait?

THERE is no legal problem to leave Kuwait and go to any other place, provided you hold a valid visa to enter the country you are going to. If you hold a visa and a ticket, you can proceed to the US instead of going to the Philippines.

If the sponsor agrees to pay the price of the air ticket to the Philippines, then the difference in the ticket for the US must be borne by you.

Your departure also depends on the contract period, how long you have worked and whether or not you have completed the contract. If you have, you can ask your employer to cancel your visa and then plan your departure to the US.

(Arab Times regrets to inform readers that individual replies cannot be given).

I'VE been working here in Kuwait for more than four years. I've been working for the same employer because they have been very kind to me. For some reasons, we are now having a misunderstand

We are only human beings and we can decide what we want to do in our personal life, As long as I do my duty and fulfil my obligations to my employer, I think I should be allowed to have some privacy

Do I commit an offence, or break any law, by falling in love with one. I don't think I am wrong; my family is not against my

If I find another employer who is willing to give me a new visa, do I have the right to leave my present employer without any problems?

IN case you have completed your two year contract, and this has not been renewed, you can ask your present employer for a release. If the release is given, it means they agree to your leaving. If they don't give the release, you won't be able to transfer to another employer. If you are happy with the present employer, we suggest you talk to him/her and explain your problem. They seem to be nice people and and may understand your difficulty.

I ARRIVED from the Philippines in October, 1989 and work as a housemaid. I am very unlucky as my employers do not have a good attitude towards me. I did not get any salary to enable me to repay the balance of 6,000 pesos to the agency in Manils. If I had been paid, I could have forwarded the money to them. Can you help me find another employer?

BAHFAIN DIGEST

WE regret to inform you that we cannot help you to find an employer. This must be done-by the individual seeking a job. We would like to inform you that a person on a contract who has agreed to work for a certain number of years cannot leave the employer without completing the contract. As you have worked for only two months, your employers would be reluctant to give a release letter. This means that you can't transfer your residence to another employer's name. If your employers are willing to release you, and have no objection to your working elsewhere in

Kuwait, you can find another job. If not, we regret to tell you that you'll have to continue to work with the same sponsor. However, you can approach your embassy and seek their help to you get

I WOULD like to ask if there is a specific clause in the Kuwait traffic law saying that only members of the Kuwait Society of Engineers are eligible for a driving licence. For almost four years, I have been working as an engineer in Kuwait and have been unable to change my driving licence to a Kuwaiti one. Each time I apply, they ask for membership with the society of engineers, who have kept my application pending for more than a year. I have all the documents to prove that I am a bonalide engineer, endorsed by my embassy.

THE Ministry of Interior rules that the traffic law cover the issuance of driving licences and traffic rules. The Traffic Law, articles 85 to 100 and 105 state the terms and condition of obtaining a driving licence. There is no mention in the law that one has to be a member of the engineering society to apply for a

licence. To our knowledge, there is no clause in the ministry's rules that makes it mandatory for engineers to be members of the society to

Perhaps, you could approach the general traffic department in Shuwaikh and reapply for the licence. May be, you'll have better luck next time.

I WAS employed as a driver in a private company in Kuwait. I came on Sept 25, 1987, on visa No. 18. Unfortunately, I was confused at the traffic lights and was caught crossing a red signal and my licence was suspended for a

1. Please tell me the court procedure, is there a fine and

2. If my employer terminates my contract for this reason, can I take my release to find another job? If the company does not release me, can I complain to the labour office?

3. Am I covered by the three years service contract, as stated in the new labour law of march 1989? Beniie Castro

AFTER a licence is suspended for a traffic offence, the case is referred by the traffic department to the court, and it is advisable to follow it up. When a case is in court, a summons is sent, and if the address is

not traceable, the judgement will be passed in absentia. It is preferable to follow up the case to get the hearing date, and

advisable to appoint a lawyer.

Such an offence, according to Article 34 of the Traffic Law, Clause "A," mentions that the judgement could be one month imprisonment and KD50 fine; any one of the two punishments,

2. No. as you have been employed for only two years, you don't have the right to get the release. The reason for not paying the benefits depends on the severity of the offence. Private Sector Labour Law, Article 55 states that an employer has the right to

terminate the employee without paying his benefits if an employee has committed a "serious" mistake.

It is up to the court to decide whether the reason for firing can be defined as a "serious" mistake, and the reason for firing construed as endangering.

Great hi-tech stride for tele-services this decade

COMMUNICATIONS Mini-ster Abdulle Al Sharhan has said that Kuwait will experience a great technological advan-cement in the decade of the 1990s, particularly in the field of communications.

In a radio interview last night, Al Sharhan indicated that a large project, which includes the employment of computers in serving subscribers, will be completed this year and aims at facilitating administrative and technological procedures. He added that this project will

also provide advancement service in record time and that it will be applied in 10 telephone exchanges.

Al Sharhan noted that the

ministry has finished enacting a communications law to push forward the telephone service to cope with the requirements of the next decade.

He said that the ministry will also introduce a new digital services network in the next decade that will link telephone exchanges and enable them from combining a number of audio, visual and data services into one integrated system.

Hope for better

Indo-Bangla ties

INDIA and Bangladesh may finally resolve their existing longstanding problems with each other this year. The prospect of settlement of some disputes between the two neighbours appear brighter during the course of 1990, particularly with a new government in India under Prime Minister V.P. Singh, according to Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud.

Bangladesh foreign minister, who just concluded a three-day official visit to Bahrain told the Arab Times that the Bangladesh government is more optimistic than ever this year to bury some thorny issues with its giant neighbour. The Farraha issue has long been a major obstacle in the path of

improving bilateral relationship between the two Saorc countries. Bangladesh, since its birth in 1971, has been claiming its 'legitimate right' to share the Ganges water which flows through its soil from India. The small Islamic country, initiator of the Saarc concept, relies heavily on the Ganges water particularly during drought periods for its cash crops. Relationship between the two countries deteriorated somewhat in recent years following dispute concerning ownership of some islands in the Bay of Bengal, Tribal insurgency in the Chittagong Hill Track district in Bangladesh ever regional autonomy peaked in recent times, leading to mass exodus of tribal people from their homeland to India. Bangladesh has called for the return of all its tribal refugees from India promising a degree of autonomy, solution of various grievances and personal safety. India claims that the tribal people are persecuted by the Bangladeshi army and refuse to go back. However a number of refugees have come back recently.

"We feel the Government of V.P. Singh will be more sympathetic in setting these problems once and for all this year. We are optimistic about the chances of a successful mediation between our countries this time," said Mahmud.

The Bangladeshi foreign minister reiterated his country's foreign policy of non-alignment and friendship with all countries. He said Bangladesh maintains good relationship with India despite the existing problems.

Meanwhile Mahmud praised the role of Bangladeshi expatriates in the Gulf in particular and elsewhere in general in contributing to the economic development of their country. He said that Bangladeshi workforce worldwide contributed \$1 billion as remittance to their homeland every year - the sum constitutes the largest foreign exchange source for the country.

Bangladesh is one of the world's largest recipient of foreign aid (\$2.1 billion annual average) as it faces a host of natural calamíties

ban scholarship students from entering several universities in tions of their credibility.

MHE to ban

scholarships

for British

universities

The plans, a local daily said, were introduced after the

A PRESS report said yesterday that the Ministry of Higher

Education is studying plans to

appearance of "wave of degrees" from Britain which raises ques-Quoting sources from the ministry, the paper said a university report on scholarship students in

Britain described as "weak" the performance of the students but after a short period another report highly appreciated the academic work at the university. Meanwhile, Kuwait University has alerted some of its

students in Britain to move to

other universities after reasses

ment of the academic level of these universities. The steps of the Higher Education Ministry and Kuwait University were the first in Britain but followed similar

actions against American universities. Scholarship students, or even private students who ask the

in the United States have to refer to a list of recommended American colleges in various specialities. The list is prepared by the cultural division at the Embassy of

ministry to supervise their study

Kuwait in Washington, DC and a selection of a university from outside the list will result in denying the scholarship from the student after a period of warning. The action was taken to ensure

the best education for Kuwaiti students abroad and to control admission procedures for

Oman relaxes

REQUIRED A holding company of diversified activities seeks

Chief Accountant 1- University degree in accounts.

- 2- Experience with trading companies for 7 years including at least three years as a chief accountant preferably in Kuwait.
- 3- Ability to supervise a staff of accountants which adapts on English accounting systems.
- 4- Ability to prepare consolidated balance sheet, budgetary controlling systems, and monitor implementation on cost centres

Applicants should write to the managing director — P.O. Box 4090 Code 13041 Safat - Kuwait with supporting documents and recent personal photograph.

Application will be treated confidentially. Final day for applications acceptance is Wed, 31.01.90

residence law

(Continued from Page 1) families alongwith them.

Ship crew calling at Oman can now spend their "port of call days" in Omani cities and stay at hotels. Omani authorities have also taken

a number of measures aimed at promoting transit and re-export trade. The one per cent charge levied on transit goods has now been aboli-shed and traders can reclaim custom charges paid on imports after these are re-exported. Relaxations are also aimed at

facilitating more traffic to Oman. Foreign visitors can now drive cars in Oman with their country's licence or international driving licences for a period of three months. Foreigners can enter Oman with their cars after obtaining permission from the Omani Traffic Department.

GCC citizens can enter Oman with their own cars and drive with their countries' driving licences. They can also exchange driving licences issued from GCC states for Omani driving

Plan to set up centre for addicts

Psychiatric Hospital fighting hard to eradicate social evils

THE following is a report on an interview conducted by a local daily with Dr Abdurahman Al Asfour, director of Kuwait's Psychiatric Hospital to highlight the raminifactions of the drug issue.

Asfour said that the Ministry of Public

Health (MPH) has recently begun a study aimed at setting up of an integrated centre for treating drugs and alcohol addicts in Kuwait. The centre is envisaged to be constructed within a period of two years and funding for the project is being donated by several benevolents within the country.

Commenting on the comprehensive campaign for the eradication of drugs, the official said that the Psychiatric Hospital is going ahead with its programme to light this social and health evil. Speaking of the volume of this phen-

omenon in Kuwait, the official said that it has been around for quite some time and the MPH had allocated an integrated ward in 1981 for treating addicts. In 1985, a specialised centre had been established and had been expanded in 1988.

Disclosing statistics from the hospital's files, Asfour said that it had received about 783 cases in 1983, 2,139 in 1984, 3,111 in 1985 and 3,511 in 1986, 4,871 in 1987 and 8,557 cases in 1988. The Addiction Treatment Services Centre involved about 1,200 files of addicts - 90 per cent of these being Kuwaiti

Treatment had resulted in 15 per cent of the

cases obtaining permanent cures, while the remainded had varying levels of success.

Commenting he said that international statis-tics indicated that 70 per cent of treated addic-

tion cases were known to resume the habit while in Kuwait this percentage amounted to

However, he commented that these statistics do not factually represent the actual number of drug cases in Kuwait. For several reasons many drug addiction cases go unreported and it is thus not feasible to truly judge the number of drug addicts in Kuwait, the official explained.

Drugs do take a very heavy toll of life, personal misfortunes, family break-ups, marital problems and of late been the cause of 30 per cent of all deaths. Additionally, drugs cause several health complications and diseases such as tumours, blood vessels diseases, nervous breakdowns, digestive problems, hallucinations and a loss with reality.

Giving a back-drop on the categories of addicts, the official said that they could be divided into four levels. Those between the ages of 30 to 40 were mostly addicted to alcohol. Those between the ages of 18 to 28 were frequent users of narcotic pills. The third were mostly hashish and opium addicts and came from a cross-section of ages. The fourth, an off-shoot of the drug scene are the most unfortunate - addicts ranging between the ages of 12 to 19 who mostly take butex and

benz.

He disclosed that addiction centres do not take in addicts under 16 years of age. These cases are transferred to paediatric wards at the hospitals to receive necessary treatment. Meanwhile, the official said that the addiction centre had recently formed a committee

to study, evaluate and set up necessary

measures to address the problem. In this res-

The first concentrates on addiction symptoms which are considered to be the dangerous stage. In this instance, addicts are put under observation for a period ranging from four days to about three weeks. The second related to treatment from the psychiatric level and moral care for addicts

under the supervision of psychologists. At

pect, the committee has set up three stages.

this stage, addicts are given extensive lectures on the perils and downfall of using drugs. The third reflects on rehabilitating the addicts by way of providing religious lectures and sporting activities, in addition to other entertainment and cultural activities. This is the last stage - after which the patient could

be discharged. The official commented that for the time being the Addiction Centre of the Psychiatric Hospital is dealing with the first and the second stage, while the third one is still under preparation.

He disclosed that 16 months ago, the hospital had begun an urgent scheme for developing its capability to carry out the three treatment stages in an integrated manner. This scheme requires the provision of the necessary efficients which are currently not available at the centre.

The official called for setting up the necessary rehabilitation centres and social service office to look after the addicts in the wake of their release after the third stage. He said that this is a very vital stage and the addicts should be given every type of encouragement and decent companionship towards their recovery plays a very vital role on the road to complete recovery.

ARAB@TIMES

Thought for today

TO fear love is to fear life, and those who fear life are already three parts dead — Bertrand Russell, British philosopher (1872-1970).

Blockade controversy

US-Colombian

BOGOTA. (Reuter): Washington's plan to deploy warships off this country's coast for drug interdiction has worsened US Colombian tensions weeks before a high-profile drug summit

US officials say the plan has been placed on hold because of fierce opposition in Colombia.

But the damage has already been done as what is seen here as US muscle-flexing in Latin America has added to regional tensions as President George Bush prepares for a drug summit with Latin American leaders in Colombia next month.

Critics have described the Bush administration's handling of the drug interdiction plan, which involved stationiang a naval flotilla in international waters off Colombia's Caribbean coast, as a classic public relations blunder.

The timing, critics say, could not have been worse, given the sharp criticism in Colombia and other Latin American countries of the US invasion of Panama.

Press leaks about the warship deployment — with some reports calling it a "blockade" — left Colombian authorities so irritated that they refused to meet with a US team despatched here last week to explain the Navy plan, according to published reports both her and in Washington.

Underscoring US-Colombian tensions, government and US embassy spokesmen here said on Wednesday the two countries have had no formal contacts to discuss the US military's proposed involvement in the war on drugs. Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes said no such contacts were expected soon.

"So far, we don't foresee any special contact in that respect," Londono said in an interview with Colombia's RCN radio sta-

A senior government official said on Tuesday that Bush had been expected to telephone Colombian President Virgilio Barco to discuss the controversy. The official said, however, that the call never came through.

Warships

US officials have said that the plan to deploy warships off the Colombian coast will not go into effect without the consent of the Colombian government.

The current climate in Bogota, which some political analysts attribute to nationalistic and anti-American posturing ahead of May presidential elections, would appear to put the deployment

Londono has said that Colombia will never permit the interception of Colombia-flagged vessels on the high seas, much less in its territorial waters.

The United States and Colombia were drawn together as allies after President Virgilio Barco declared war last August on the international drug trade, notably the Colombian-based cocaine

Since then, however, thorny economic issues coupled with Washington's failure to deliver on promised trade and economic aid to support the drug war, have drawn the two nations apart.

Promise

One promise Bush made last September was to help revive international support prices for coffee, Colombia's largest legal

But efforts to revive the price supports, which collapsed last year, have run into difficulties. And Bush's pledge to obtain lower duties on Colombian exports appeared contradicted by last month's announcement that the United States was considering doubling duties on Colombian cut flowers.

Washington approved \$65 million in US military assistance to Colombia after it began its crackdown on drug lords five months ago. Bush's long-term anti-drug programme will provide Colombia, Peru and Bolivia with \$261 million in aid in 1990 and \$2 billion over the next five years.

The Colombian government has publicly expressed thanks for the aid, though it flatly rejected Bush's offer to send US combat troops into Colombia.

Ald

The Colombian media has repeatedly criticised the aid as paltry, however, and noted that the United States has spent far more bankrolling the fight against Marxist-led rebels in El Salvador than it has on the battle against Colombia's billionaire drug barons - purveyors of 80 per cent of the cocaine shipped to the United States.

A factor sure to add to the friction at next month's drug summit in the Caribbean city of Cartagena is the feeling many Colombians have about Washington's role in the drug war.

People here, including many government and military officials, say they are suffering on the front line of the war while Washington gheers from the sidelines but fails to curb drug consumption in

TODAY IN HISTORY

- English force captures French city of Rouen.

1759 - Marquis of Tavora and his wife are executed in

1813 - British fleet blockades Chesapeake and Delaware Bays

1849 - Sikhs are defeated at Chillianwalla in India, but British

1886 - Lagos becomes separate British colony from Nigeria.

1915 - South African troops occupy Swakopmund in German

South-West Africa; earthquake in central Italy kills 30.000

people.
1935 — Saar votes to return to Germany after being adminis-

1945 — Soviet forces begin offensive in Silesia, Germany, in

1959 — Belgium grants reforms in Belgian Congo following

1963 — Togo's President Sylvanus Olympio is murdered as

1967 - Military officers in West African Republic of Togo

seize power in bloodless coup.

1972 — Group of junior officers overthrows civilian govern-

1986 - State-run radio reports that South Yemen's President

Ali Nasser Mohammed has survived assassination attempt and

1987 - Employee of Dupont Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto

Rico, is charged with setting New Year's Eve fire that killed 96

people and injured more than 140 others.

1988 — Nationalist China's President Chiang Ching-Kuo dies

1989 — Polish communist leaders said to be ready to offer

that leaders of abortive coup have been executed.

legalization to Solidarity — the banned trade union,

tered by France under League of Nations supervision.

1559 -- Coronation of Elizabeth I of England.

1822 — Loberal constitution is adopted in Greece.

in United States during war of 1812.

suffer heavy casualties.

insurgents take control.

of heart attack at age 77.

ment of Ghana in West Africa.

World War II.

disturbances.

Baker losing interest in Palestine

Election plan in jeopardy

WASHINGTON, (Kuna): Secretary of State James Baker's "inner cabinet" aides are quietly sending the word out to those who are willing to listen: the secretary is just starting to lose interest in the elec-tion plan for the occupied territories and unless the parties concerned — Israelis and Palestinians show some signs of compromise, he might give up his mediation efforts and concentrate his energy on other regions of the world instead.

Under "normal" circumstances, the two parties involved might very well come crawling back to Washington with new "give ideas" that might very well break the stalemate. But the conflict between the Palestinians and the Israelis is not "normal" and therefore — for entirely different reasons — both the Palestinians and the Israelis might very well allow Secretary Baker to pack it up and shift his efforts to other regions of the world.

Afterall, how many American peace initiatives have gone by the wayside in this same way over the last couple of decades — the latest was the Shultz

peace initiative of 1987. There seems to be a conviction on both sides that they had gone as far as they can in terms of concessions when they submitted their separate response to Baker's five-point proposals calling for the opening of an Egyptian-Israeli-American dialogue that will lead to an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo.

Not so, says Washington: There must be more "give," especially from Israel, if the stalemate is to be broken.

The Israelis say that they will be ready to take part in the proposed negotiations with the Palestinians only within the framework of the so-called six "assurances" that they attached to their "acceptance in principle" of the Baker proposals. The Palestinians, working through the Egyptians, also argue along the same line.

However, Baker's top aides involved in the nittygritty mid-level negotiations, led by policy planning director Dennis Ross, among others, insist the con-cessions made on both sides are simply not enough to get the dialogue going.

Their conclusions are based on closed meetings they held in Washington with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's envoy, Eli Rubenstein, and the Egyptian Ambassador to Washington Abdul Raouf Al Reedy in December.

As if to underscore this point, the expected tripartite meeting of the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel, and the US—originally scheduled for early January in Washington — never materialised, with State Department officials saying if the talks are to take place at all, they will not be held before the end of February or even before early March.

The planners of Baker's schedule fitted in a Moscow and East Europe trip during February only after they realised that the progress in the Middle East peace talks was not enough to warrant scheduling a definite date for the tripartite meeting. They told Baker the points of disagreement have been narrowed down but not enough to guarantee suc-

the secretary got diverted from the Middle East peace process by much bigger events in Eastern: Europe, the Soviet Union, the Panama invasion and the February elections in Nicaragua. "Central Ameirica is always more of a top priority for an American secretary of state than the Middle East.

No one is ready to admit also that the secretary and his top aides can handle only that many crises in one month. But, perhaps more significantly, no State Department official is willing to go on record to say that the astute politician. Jim Baker, will not stick his neck out and jeopardize his political future (and possible presidential aspirations) by failing in the Middle East if he senses he is unable to pull it off

That is one reason why Baker's aides, after wrangling with the minute issues for weeks, were putting out Baker's last card on the table: compromise, agree or else we will lift our hands off the Middle East. They insist, however, that this stage has not yet

State Department insiders say that patience started running out with Israel in Washington just after the Weizman-Shamir rift last week.

As understood by top administration officials, the way the hardline Shamir manoeuvred his inner cabinet conflict with Weizman, managing to come out on top, had as much to do with internal Israeli politics as it had with sending a message to Washing-

Officials believe the Likud leader and Israeli prime minister was indirectly sending the word to Baker that he (Shamir) was serious and adamant in refusing to allow any role for the PLO.

He also wanted to show Washington that he is still firmly in control of the Israeli government and that the Labour Party, which the Bush administration strongly supports, did not have enough votes to break the coalition government and win new elec-

The irony of all these manoeuvres, according to State Department officials, is that despite appearances to the contrary, slight progress has been made in



recent weeks in the intense but secret negotiations with both sides. As one mid-level State Department official commented, "we have left process and are now into substance...'

For example, these officials believe that they are on the way to solving the two main obstacles that have blocked the progress in the negotiations: the question of representation and the issue of the agenda of the proposed talks between Israelis and

The officials say more progress has been made in private than exposed in public statements by all sides. New formulas have ben introduced, they say - without divulging any details - that seem to be more acceptable to both sides.

Talks with Eli Rubenstein and with other Israeli officials since then have convinced these State Department officials that Israel might now be ready to accept having Palestinian "deportees" taking part in the Palestinian delegation (as the PLO has insisted on).

The assumption is that these deportees will all be known as the PLO's men in the occupied territories but they will have "an alternative address" according to the State Department formula - a device they hope would allow the Israelis to claim they have conceded nothing while the PLO at the same time can claim that its representatives are on the official

They also believe that the question of the "visibility" or "invisibility" of the PLO in the proposed dialogue might be worked out in the coming few weeks.

One idea being debated is for the unified leadership of the intifada to announce the names of the Palestinians representatives at the talks in one of their regular pamphlets — the assumption being that everyone knows the leadership is all composed of PLO members. But Israel can still claim the unifield leadership is composed of members from inside the occupied territories only.

One of the thorny issues that has evolved in the discussions with Israel in recent weeks is the controversial question of occupied Jerusalem. The Shamir government, officials here say, is adamant that the more than 150,000 Palestinian residents of

occupied Jerusalem should not take part in the proposed elections in the occupied territories.

The Likud Party platform does not give the leeway for the Shamir government to let this happen. Washington has been told repeatedly by the Israeli government.
The technocrats in the State Department are

reportedly trying to work a way out of this problem through new definitions of the legal status of the city occupied Jerusalem, according to sources in Washington. But the source would not eleborate on what formula is being envisaged as a way out that

Israel is not the only party that is having problems with the Baker proposals. The Egyptian government is reportedly starting to have second thoughts about its own mediating role in the peace negotiations which obviously is nearer to that of the Palestinians and the Americans than that of Israel. Based on discussions with Egyptian officials in

recent days, it appears the Egyptian government is irritated with the reaction of both Israel and the Palestinians to its own mediating role in recent

The Cairo government believes that the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has snubbed Egypt and embarrassed President Hosni Mubarak by taking such a negative stand towards his 10-point proposals. The Likud government obviously does not want to hand Mubarak a victory on a golden platter for his mediating role, giving further proof of its lack of interest in reaching a peaceful settlement in the region.

But whatever the arguments used back and forth in the ever-shifting sands of the Middle East, there are clear signs that the Egyptians are now adopting more of a back seat and, as one official put it recently, "we are trying not to get ahead of anyone at this stage."

Faced with all these challenges, few can now accuse the PLO leadership of inconsistency. The PLO Executive Committee, the Central Council, and other bodies together with statements made by various top PLO officials have shown unanimity on the key issues being tossedf around in this Middle Eastern tumble-dryer.

Letters to the editor

Services in Kuwait

SIR: I would like to respond to Alhamar's letter Hundliating Remarks (AT. Jan 2) in which he expressed his humiliation. Alhamar was right on confessing his letter had nothing to do with English girls married to Arabs.

There is no need for anyone to feel humiliated. I am not humiliated as an American from your remarks about American society. I can shed tears for all the American "cocaine babies," child drug addicts, fatheriess kids, child Aids victims and I could go on and

If Kuwait's free expert medical care is of such high standard, then why are the private hospitals packed with Kuwaitis, and why are unfortunate Kuwaiti families spending their life savings to send their loved ones abroad? ... For more expert, and more compassionate medical

Although I made a critical statement, I will be spending the rest of my life raising my children here, and I would like to partake in the improvement of Kuwait as much as any concerned Kuwaiti. Kuwait has many wonderful aspects, this I know. There are many Kuwaitis out there who realise some of Kuwait's substandard services, and are making great efforts

Madame Haider's letter (AT, Dec 18) has a point to those statements. As long as anyone refuses to accept anything as inferior in Kuwait, those concerned Kuwaitis making strides towards improvement cannot accomplish much, as they need help!

The Last Word, (Name and address supplied).

Faith in God

SIR: In a recent article entitled 'Faith in God is waning, it is said that according to data there is a trend within so-called "welfare" states in the world in not believing in God. This 'data' was supposedly taken from 16 different countries and is supposed to represent somewhat a cross-section of the entire world. This data, it seems, has been conveniently manipulated to make it appear that in non-welfare states the belief in

God is stronger.
In the article we are informed that 'a welfare state is a state in which the welfare of its citizens, with regard to employment, medical care, and social security, is considered to be the responsibility of the government'.

Apparently, some sort of a survey was conducted among the people of the 16 countries. One wonders why none of those countries are those having a Muslim majority? As it is well known that most Muslim countries would be considered welfare states according to the definition given in the article and all Muslim countries would be right up around the 100 per cent range if ever surveyed about their belief in To refute some of the other ideas brought up

in the article, it also states that only vulnerable people tend to have more faith in God, and that f people are taken care of by their governments their belief rate goes down. Not only are the Muslim welfare state countries high on the belief-in. God scale, but Muslims are also more likely, on the whole, to are in the manner of a believer in God; it is following God's laws, thereby making the Muslim countries far lower with regard to: crime rates, divorce rates, illegitimacy of babies rates, alcoholism and drug abuse rates etc., whereas those countries Africa, Ireland, Mexico, France, Denmark, and Japan are some of the most high in all of those vices, regardless of being so-called 'welfare states' or not. Its a pity that this survey was manipulated to exclude the Muslim countries completely. Real belief in God comes from the heart, translated into actions, and that is Islam. Mia Ponzo

Salwa

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"This year is starting off well. We will fight for many years if necessary but 1990 may be a decisive year in our history. We shall welcome him (Gorbachev) as the leader of a strong neighbouring state with which we have had a long and difficult history but with which we do!!
not want bad relations." — Vitautus Lansbergas,
president of Sajudis National Front clamouring for Lithuanian independence.

"The government has not participated and will not participate in any joint manoeuvres in international waters of the Caribbean Sea with airborne military or navy units of the United States. It has not participated and will not participate in manoeuvres in international waters and has not authorised and will not authorise the manoeuvres in territorial waters." — A Colombian presidential statement ruling out joint drug fight with the US.

"By denying the Khmer Rouge an equal role in the peace process, the Vietnamese-installed government of Premier Hun Sen was forcing it to continue fighting indefinitely. And if one day the Khmer Rouge were to win the war in Cambodia and return to power, responsibility would rest without any doubt with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Hun Sen regime and their Western supported." the Hun Sen regime and their Western supporters,"—
Prince Norodom Sihanouk. * *

"Saudi Arabia made great sacrifices by reducing its production from 10 to three million barrels per day (BPD). Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Arabia. which possess the world's largest oil reserves, and produce less than they should, have the right to increase their production."— UAF Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteibs.

"I have always dreamed of being coach for River Plate... but I never thought it would happen so soon. I thought it would be in two or three years but the time has come and ! am very happy." — Daniel Passarella.

*Our idea is that Comecon is obsolete. It never functioned properly and it is not functioning properly now either. We must improve it and it has to change if it is to have any chance of survival." — Spokesman for the Romanian National Salvation Front on the East bloc trade group Comecon.

"The danger is that the Soviet Union will import from, and exchange with, the United States the very same production technologies that are the cause of pollution: smog-generating cars; acid-rain generating power plants; dioxin-generating trash-burning incinerators; and the agricultural chemicals that spread toxic materials into the environment. — An American environmentalist warning his Soviet counterparts on the rush to build their economy and its reprisals.

d antagonists profess friendliness

NEW DELHI, (AP): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan sent a special envoy to New Delhi this week to meet India's new leaders, but the effort to continue a slow thaw in old animosities hit a

snag.

The snag was an escalation in the simmering violence in Kashmir, where Muslim citizens of predominantly Hindu India are waging a secessionist campaign for independence or merger with Muslim Pakistan. The Kashmir violence, which has claimed 21 lives

since Monday, prompted sharp rebukes Thursday in Indian newspapers. Several major dailies variously proclaimed or implied that Prime Minister V.P. Singh had firmly instructed Pakistan to stop arming the Kashmiri militants.

The accusation is an old one and is routinely

denied by Pakistan. The press reports in turn sparked an oblique but pointed attack by the Pakistan Embassy on India's true intentions, with a Pakistani diplomat summoning reporters to assert that Indian government officials were planting false information about the talks in the newspapers.

The word games underscored the sensitivity and animosities of two nations who were born at the same time in a bloody partition of British colonial India in 1947 and went on to fight three wars - two

of them over the disputed territory of Kashmir. As the Pakistani diplomat noted, the last war in 1971. But the lingering distrust has been slow to

The warming trend took a promising turn when Benazir was elected prime minister 14 months ago. Her election, which came after Pakistan's president, Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq, died in a plane crash, ended 11 years of military rule in Pakistan. Benazir and the man who then was prime minister

of India, Rajiv Gandhi, quickly established what both sides described as a personal rapport between members of a younger generation free of personal memories of the violent partition of their nations. This week, Benazir dispatched Abdul Sattar to New Delhi to meet Singh, who succeeded Rajiv as

prime minister six weeks ago.
Sattar, the Pakistani ambassador to the Soviet Union, also met the new foreign minister, Inder Kumar Guiral, and several other officials he had known during his 1978-82 stint as ambassador to

Sattar's lower-level meetings were generally described by both sides in the usual diplomatic platitudes of "useful and friendly discussions."

Then he met V.P. Singh, and India's long-standing accusations that Pakistan arms and trains the Kashmiri separatists flared into the newspapers "V P tells Pak to refrain from abetting terrorism,"

the Hindustan Times, a widely read and moderate daily, declared in a front-page headline. The conservative Times of India, in its front-page story, said: "The prime minister, V.P. Singh, is understood to have told the Pakistan prime minister, Benazir Bhutto's special envoy, Mr Abdus Sattar, that Islamabad must demonstrate that it

wishes to stop assistance to the Kashmir terrorists if it wants better ties with New Delhi." Sattar's first name is spelled both Abdus and

Abdul, depending on whether the transliteration

from the Urdu script is phonetic or literal.

The Pakistani diplomat accused the newspapers

of distorting what had been a series of friendly discussions that concentrated more on improving relations in general than on Kashmir in particular. The diplomat pointedly summoned only correspondents of foreign publications to his briefing, although about half of them were Indian citizens.

"There has been a lot of embroidery on how the talks were conducted," he said, stipulating that he

Embroidery by whom, he was asked.

"It is embroidery by the media, but there may be signs of the embroidery being instigated or encouraged from outside," the diplomat said.

And what did he meant by the outside, he was

"From within the government." he responded. According to Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman Aftab Seth, in his briefing Wednesday on the talks with Sattar, "Prime Minister Mr V.P. Singh indicated that India would appreciate (it) if these concerns (on Kashmir) are addressed as such things can become difficult to manage if allowed to grow. Seth did not elaborate.

When asked Thursday about the Pakistani diplomat's remarks, Seth said: "We have nothing further to add nor any comment to offer on the statement made by a spokesman of the Pakistan High Commission (embassy)."

The flap seemed puzzling, a Western diplomat noted, since both sides seemed genuinely interested in pursuing efforts to improve relations.

THE SECOND STREET SECOND STREET SECOND SECON

The state of the s

Gorbachev travelled to the Baltic

republic after its Communist Party broke with the Soviet party and the secessionist movement grew more In an hour-long speech to Lithuan-

ian intellectuals late yesterday, he said he was for 'self-determination

the powerful pro-independence Sajudis movement, dismissed Gor-

bachev's pledge to draft a law giving the once-independent republic the right to secede from the Soviet

"This is a cheap lie, it's a lie for

naive people in the west," said Land-sbergis. "I wonder if it came from

him or someone suggested it to him. It means other people will decide for

Referendum

said would be put to an unpreceden-

ted countrywide referendum, was a

just 'vague promise designed to save time,' said Algis Cekuolis, a senior

member of the Lithuanian Commun-

Parliament in Moscow, also dam-

pened speculation of an imminent break-up in the Soviet Union, saying the law would be concerned more with regulating relations between its member republics than with seces-

Gorbachev, faced with an

explosion of separatist feeling on the first day of his three-day trip to the

republic, travelled today to Siaulai, a city 200 km (120 miles) northwest of

the capital which is home to a big

military airfield local activists want

"I am for self-determination up to

the point of secession," said Gorba-chev in a didactic, hour-long speech to Lithuanian intellectuals late yes-

have been issued to work out a draft

law providing for a mechanism for

republics to leave the Soviet Union,"

Gorbachev said.
"These are vague promises which seemed to me designed to gain time," said Cekuolis, a local newspaper

editor and member of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Commit-

in it were followed up by practical, steps, such as demilitarisation, with drawal of troops from the Baltic

Gorbachev coupled his remarks with repeated appeals to Lithuanians not to try to break with Moscow, saying the path to political, social and economic independence was

through continued membership of the Soviet Union.

you take the other path I shall do

everything to show you that you are

leading your people to a dead end,"

A spokeswoman for Sajudis said that Lithuania's incorporation into the Soviet Union in 1940 had been

illegal and "there should not be a law

on secession because Lithuania never

She predicted the right of referen-dum recently added to the Lithuan-

ian constitution would be used soon

within the Soviet Union. Its timing would depend on the Lithuanian

Parliament, due to be elected next

month as part of a series of

republican elections across the Soviet

Albert Grigoryants, a legal expert at the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet

Parliament, said it would be "wrong

to call the new law a law on seces

sion." pointing out that the formal

right to secede had long been in the

variants of the solution of the ques-

thing is drawing up new relations

between the centre and the

moredetails, that any decision of

secession should take into account

not only the will of the republic con-

outer Soviet republics."

munist Party.

plc of Lithuania."

cerned, but also the interests of the

Support

parliament expressed support for Lithuanian independence and for the

course followed by its ruling Com-

the supreme body of power of a

sovereign state, expresses its support

for the consistent course of its neigh-

bour - Lithuania - towards

independence," Latvian Radio said.
"The Latvian Supreme Soviet

expresses its solidarity with the peo-

Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia

were incorporated into the Soviet

Union after a 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact. In another development the

Armenian parliament, angry at continued Azerbaijani control of dis-

puted Nagorno-Karabakh, defied

the Kremlin yesterday by voting

Meanwhile, Azerbaijani prote-

sters blockaded government offices

and seized a radio station in a Casp-

ian Sca port while Georgians deman-

ding independence drove govern-

ment officials from their offices in the

Protesters in the Azerbaijani city

Caucasus, reports said today.

itself the right to veto Soviet laws.

"The Latvian Supreme Soviet, as

neighbouring

He also stressed, without giving

tion," Grigoryants said. "The m

"Secession is just one of the many

Soviet constitution.

to hold a plebiscite on remain

entered the Soviet Union."

he warned.

2

"Today I am your friend, but if

"This could all be interesting only.

"In this connection instructions -

A legal expert in the Soviet

ist Party.

The draft law, which Gorbachev

St Word PFileC). But Vytautas Landsbergis, head of

movement, dismissed Gor-

up to the point of secession.

Secession offer fails to placate Lithuanians

Gorby pledges law setting terms for republics to quit

VILNIUS, Soviet Union. Jan 12, (Reuter): President Mikhail Gorbachev appealed to Lithuanians for dialogue not confrontation today after a nationalist jeader accused him of perpetrating 'a cheap lie' on the secession issue. "Some people demand" liberty and independence' for Lithuania but this is like a game, you know," Gorbachev said in a speech to workers in Sianliai, northwest of Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital.

"We don't need a confrontation. Let us have a dialogue, let us discuss things, acknowledging equal rights for everybody and acknowledging the fact that the Lithuanian people must feel that their roots lie in this land," he told workers at a

"It is their land. It could not be otherwise."



Gorbachev talks with Lithuanians at Lenin Square. (Reuter wirephoto)



Thousands of Lithuanians raising flags and banners gather in central Vilnius. (Reuter wirechoto)

Secret police plan ditched

Modrow bows to pressure

EAST BERLIN, Jan 12, (AP): East Germany's communist premier announced today he was scrapping plans to form a new secret police force before planned elections May 6.

Premier Hans Modrow announced his decision to Parliament. It came amid mounting criticism from non-communist parties in his coalition government and opposition groups who feared the new force would be used by communists to harass politial opponents before

Through May 6, no offices will be created in this area," Modrow said in reference to the disputed plans.

the promised free elections.

Opposition leaders had said decisions on the sensitive issue of internal security should await a democratically elected government. They threatened to break off talks with the communists on reforms following the peaceful revolution that has overhauled East German society.

Modrow already has said the old security police, hated for its repression during decades of hard-line communist rule, was being disbanded. But non-communist coalition partners threatened to leave the government unless Modrow provided

proof the unit was dissolved. Parliament continued a twoday session today by discussing

the threats to break up the ruling coalition. Parliament speaker Guenter Maleuda criticised a protest outside the chamber building last night by thousands of people calling for the ouster of the communists who pulled down East

German flags.

Maleuda claimed the protest disturbed the lawmakers' work inside the building.
As the lawmakers met today

morning, more than 200 East Berlin taxi drivers drove in a caravan to the parliament building, honking their horns to show displeasure with the govern-

The taxi drivers were demanding equal opportunities for opposition groups in the May elections and demanded the abolition of the state-run Labour Union Federation.

An independent trade union movement threatened a nation-wide strike because of the lingering dispute over the secret police. Yesterday's disclosure that the key figure in an East German financial scandal had been a

high-ranking secret police officer

was likely to inflame the con-

Modrow yesterday offered the opposition an unspecified gover-nment role but also claimed the country needed an internal security force to guard against alleged dangers from neo-Nazis,

drug traffickers and others. His reversal of position today came as a surprise, despite the threat from three of the four noncommunist coalition partners to leave the government. Modrow said yesterday he

believed coalition government would hold until the May elections, 6, but indicated "compelling reasons" could force a

In West Berlin, a prosecutor disclosed that Alexander Schalck-Golodkowski, the former government official involved in a financial scandal, was a colonel in the East German secret police.

Schalck-Golodkowski is wanted in East Germany on charges of embezzlement after reportedly absconding with tens of millions of marks (tens of millions of dollars) that ended up in Swiss bank accounts.

He had been the government's chief foreign trader, and the official in charge of bringing in

badly needed Western currency. East Germans are likely to seize on the prosecutor's disclosure as further proof of the dominant role the secret police had throughout East German

A West Berlin prosecutor has refused to extradite Schalck-Golodkowski to East Germany, where treason charges and a death sentence are a possibility. Schalck-Golodkowski, who

also allegedly ran a ring selling weapons to countries in Africa, South America and the Middle East, turned himself in to West Berlin authorities on Dec 6 and was freed on Tuesday.

N-winter would be worse

study concludes the aftermath of an atomic war

would be even worse than previously believed.

R.P. Turco, co-author of a study appearing today in Science magazine, said the study shows that even a "modest exchange" of nuclear weapons could so fill the sky with smoke and soot that agriculture would be virtually wiped out for one season and could be severely affected the second

year after such a war. Starvation would be widespread, he said, even in Third World nations that are not likely to be hit by

"It looks like most of the human population would be in jeopardy from a nuclear exchange," Turco said in an interview. "The basic physical principals have been confirmed by detailed research in the five years since we first proposed the

The new findings concentrate on changes in rainfall patterns, on the effects of black soot arising from atomic bomb-ignited fires and on the creation of a vast ozone hole over the northern hemisphere. Turco said the study assumes that in even a small nuclear exchange the primary target would be oil

once would put enough soot into the atmosphere to block the sun and, even in July, cause widespread freezing and destroy food crops for the year. "We need agriculture every year," he said.
"Millions and millions would die." Smoke would eventually dim the sun all over the

and gas storage areas because such material is vital

to military defence. He said igniting those stores at

globe, reducing solar intensities on a hemisph scale by up to 50 per cent, the study estimates.

Turco said the new studies also suggest that smoke in the upper atmosphere would 'cook away" up to 50 per cent the normal ozone layer. creating an ozone hole over much of the northern

This, he said, would further cripple agriculture because of the effect of intense ultraviolet rays on plants. Ozone normally shields the earth from high

levels of ultraviolet radiation. "This could be extremely significant and is some-thing that hasn't been considered before," Turco

Turco said the new studies also suggest the nuclear exchange would disrupt normal rainfall

NEWS IN BRIEF

Europe

Zhivkov likely to be tried: A member of a parliamentary commission investigating alleged crimes by Todor Zhivkov said Thursday that the ousted hardline communist leader is likely to be tried for abuse of power, fraud and human rights viola-

But Petar Beron said the investigations might stop short of unearthing details of possible irregularities by communists still involved in government. (AP)

Panther eludes dragnet: Demands for controls over ownership of "exotic" animals escalated Thursday after a mysterious black panther eluded a dragnet on the outskirts of Rome.

Newspapers published grainy photos of a black animal running in a wooded area Wednesday in what they said was at least the eighth sighting of the panther since Dec 27. (AP)

Police seize porno videos: Police raided a British crematorium on Thursday and seized pornographic video cassettes that were being hired out

between funerals. Police swooped down on the Chapel of Rest at the Robin Hood Crematorium on the outskirts of Birmingham in central England after a tip-off that sex videos were being rented out. (Reuter)

Confer in secret: Investigators and government law officers probing the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 conferred in secret all day Wednesday and

and nothing publicly about their talks.

The seven-hour meeting in Lockerbie was the fifth in a series attended by personnel from the United States, Britain, West Germany, Sweden and Malta to assess world-wide progress in the hunt for the bom-

Bomb hoax calls soars: The number of hoax bomb threats received by British airports and airlines has sourced since the blowing up of a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, killing 270 a year ago, it was reported in

London Thursday.

British Transport Secretary Cecil Parkinson told the House of Commons last night that the number of hoaxes had more than doubled in the 12 months since the Lockerbie disaster, which he described as "a sad reflection on some sick minds." (Kuna)

Sinn Fein man in court: A top official of Sinn-Fein, the legal political arm of the outlawed Irish Republican Army, appeared in court today, charged with involvement in an absolution and planned mus-Danny Morrison, 36, vice-president of Sinn Fein,

and four other men were ordered held until a Jan 26 court appearance.

Morrison, arrested Sunday, was charged with con-

unlawfully and injuriously imprisoning him for three

Moscow reveals data of nuke: Moscow has admitted that one of its plutonium-p nuclear submarines sank last year in deep waters off Norway, Norwegian experts said Friday.

Johan Baarli, of Norway's Institute for Radiation

Hygiene, said Moscow had responded to a Norwegian request and revealed that the sub's reactor contains 2 kilogrammes (4.4 pounds) of radioactive plutonium 239, plus the nuclear fuels strontium 90 and cesium 137. (AP)

Sweden to establish: Sweden, hit in recent years by increased terrorist activity and the murder of its prime minister, has included a new anti-terrorist police unit in the 1990-91 state budget proposal

The government, anxious to allay fears that a paramilitary force could be a step towards a police state, stressed that the unit would be deployed only on its direct orders. (Reuter)



Save rainforests

Pop musician Sting (right) is hugged by lanomani Indian chief Raoni at a meeting of SOS Virgen-Forrest in Brasilia. The two met with Brazilian President Jose Sarney, along with a group of Brazillan personalities, in an attempt to halt the destruction of the raintorests, the indigenous tribes northern part of the country. (Reuter wirephoto)

Czech Army in reform rallies: Over 150 Czechoslovak Ármy units are involved in hunger strikes and other protests to demand greater military reforms in the wake of the country's political upheaval, an army major said on Thursday.

"Many soldiers feel the revolution has passed the

barracks by," he said.

The major, who did not wish to be named, told Reuters that soldiers criticised both the Defence Ministry and the powerful opposition movement Civic Forum, now likely to run in elections planned

for June, for having failed to recognise the impor-tance of the army demands. (Reuter) Czech polls set for June: A group that has been defining Czechoslovakia's post-revolutionary political development has tentatively set a June 8 date

for parliamentary elections, Czechoslovak state television reported Thursday.

All five political parties existing before the revolution and the loosely organised opposition group Civic Forum have been participating in joint talks, and the posticipating translatively set the election date. and the participants tentatively set the election date. according to unofficial information reported by state

Jaruzelski urges: President Wojciech Jaruzelski has called on West Germany and the World War Hallies to acknowledge Poland's current western and northern borders as final and unconditional, Polish media reproted Friday.

Jaruzelski made the appeal in remarks at a reception for the diplomatic corps on Thursday evening in Warsaw. (AP)

Africa

television. (AP)

Uganda charges 38: Thirty-eight people, including a number of former allies of President Yoweri Museveni, have been charged with plotting to overthrow the Ugandan leader.

Charged with treason in the chief magistrate's court in Kampala were 19 military officers and an equal number of civilians. All were ordered held for

Among them were four former officials of the Uganda Federal Democratic Movement, a guerrilla group which fought alongside Museveni's National Resistance Army against former president Milton Obote, who was deposed in 1985. (AP)

Okello dies in exile: General Basilio Okello, who controlled the Ugandan government for six months in 1985, has died in exile in Sudan aged 72, relatives said on Thursday.

Okello was wanted by the present government of President Yowers Museven which secured him of atrocities committed during his time in power, including many extra-judicial killings.

Okello led the troops from northern Uganda which outsed President Milton Obote in July 1985.

Berto dies of cancer: Juliette Berto, the leading lady of director Jean-Luc Godard in a host of avant-garde films including "Weekend" and "La Chinoise," has died of cancer, family friends said Thursday. She was 42.

Made famous by "Weekend," Godard's 1966 classic about a group of people taking to the roads to escape Paris, Miss Berto eventually turned her back on the star system that had produced celebrities such

as Brigitte Bardot and Jean Seberg. She went on to a successful career directing movies. including "Neige" (snow), a 1981 documentary-drama about drug trafficking in the seedy Pigalle district of Paris. (AP)

Kushner dies of breast cancer: Rose Kushner, a medical writer and psychologist and forceful advocate for women with breast cancer, has died of the disease at age 60, a newspaper reported Wednesday. Kushner, who resided in Kensington, Maryland,

died Sunday, the New York Times reported. (AP)

Martin Newman dies: Martin H. Newman, retired president of Century Theatres and executive director of the Will Rogers Institute, has died at age Newman, who lived in Manhattan, died Monday

at New York hospital from an undisclosed illness.

He worked for Century Theatres for nearly four decades, retiring as president in 1974. (AP)

Wheeler dead at 84: Lyle Wheeler, a leading artistic force in Hollywood's golden age who won five Oscars for such classics as "Gone With the Wind," 'The Diary of Anne Frank" and "Anna and the King of Siam," died at age 84.

Wheeler died Wednesday of complications stemming from pneumonia at the motion picture country home and hospital in Woodland Hills.

Widely recognised as the dean of art directors from the late 1930s through the 1950s, Wheeler was nominated for the Academy Award on 24 other occasions.

Dies in his sleep: Drew Middleton, a reporter who covered World War II and post-war Europe for the New York Times and later became the newspaper's military correspondent, has died. He was 76. Middleton died late Wednesday in his sleep at his apartment in New York City, the newspaper said in its Friday editions. The cause of his death was not immediately known, the Times said. (AP)

British explorer plans to walk from Siberia to North Pole

LONDON, (Reuter): British explorer Sir Ranulph Twistleton-Wykeham-Fiennes hopes to walk from Siberia to the North Pole - and into the record books.

The 46-year-old veteran of three attempts to walk to the Pole without mechanical or animal support has obtained Soviet clearance to launch his expedition in March from Cape Arktikisky, the most northern point of Siberia. This is the last great polar challenge from an explorer's

point of view," Figures told Reuters in an interview.
Figures, who in 1982 led the first successful expedition to circumnavigate the world by polar route, has so far failed to reach the North Pole unaided from the Canadian

He will be the first Westerner since the Russian Revolution to set out from Siberia. "The Soviets had refused us permission on four previous occasions but things were completely different this time," he said." The whole matter has been farmed out to the private sector, presumably to encourage the entrepren-

Fiennes said the issue was handled by a travel agency set up by private Soviet citizens, who also obtained permission from the KGB, as the expedition will be passing close to Arctic military installations.

Pole, actually 100 miles more distant than the Canadian route, but Fiennes expects the ice pack to be neutral at least, unlike the pack on the Canadian side where it was against him in the past. "It certainly can't be more difficult than on the Can-

The Siberian route is 900 nautical miles from the North

adian side," be said.

The difficulties will include dragging 160 kilos (360

pounds) of food and equipment on a sledge in temperatures as low as -50 Celsius (-58 Fahrenheit) with a net

loss of 4,500 calories per day per person.

The £38,000 (\$62,000) venture, organised by Soviet explorer D'Mitriy Shparo, is under the patronage of Britain's Prince Charles and is intended to raise funds for research into multiple sclerosis.

Figures will be travelling with Mike Stroud, a doctor

and teammate on previous polar expeditions.

They will be carrying a 45-day supply of food and are busy fattening themselves largely on a diet of spaghetti and potatoes, storing up body fat to compensate for weight

"The most gruelling test of endurance will be towing those sledges," said Fiennes. "Your torso is practically parallel with the ground and if you slacken the pace for

one-thousandth of a second the sledge comes to a dead

He likened the effort to tying together two 1.8 metre (six feet) tall men and dragging them across sand dunes. "That is similar to an exercise we used to do in the army," he said. Figure plans to pull for a minimum of 11 hours a day.

"I wanted to give up doing this sort of thing about two years ago — but I cannot," said Fiennes. "The challenge keeps gnawing away at me and I wouldn't like to read in 1991 that some Scandinavian or American expedition had

Fiennes began his adventurous career almost 20 years ago when he left the army. He had previously served in the clite Special Air Service (SAS) and with the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces in the Arabian desert.



Death probe

Annabel Markow looks up after she had a meeting with Bulgarian government member Alexander Lilov, Annabel's husband Georgi Markow lived as a dissident in London. He died there in 1978 after being stabbed by a poisoned umbrella in London. Now the Bulgarian govern-ment will hold an investigation to clear up the death of Georgi Markow

Albania 'doesn't care for' reforms

VIENNA, Jan 12, (Reuter): Albania, the last bastion of Stalinist communism in Eastern Europe, celebrated its National Day vesterday, declaring it had no need of Gorbachev-style reforms and denying reports of a

crackdown on unrest.

The head of the Orthodox church in neighbouring Greece, meanwhile, warned the Albanian government of Ramiz Alia that its present policies would lead to bloodshed and its

downfall. The Albanian Communist Party newspaper, which on Wednesday accused Albanian exiles of trying to tore the monarchy, dismissed the perestroika reforms of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as unacceptable.

The prescriptions of the capitalist road, of perestroika and bourgeois reformism are unacceptable to our people and party," the daily Zeri I Popullit said.

An editorial marking the 44th anniversary of the founding of the republic said the Albanian people fully supported the policies of party leader Ramiz Alia. "Our country develops and progresses relying completely on its own forces, being independent from

the foreign powers of their economic, military and political blocs," the paper said.

The popular uprisings in the rest of Eastern Europe have left ultra-orthodox Albania isolated in its dogged pursuit of Stalinism.

"I am warning the Tirana regime the policy it has followed up to now will lead to international isolation and certain collapse," Archbishop Seraphim, the primate of the Orthodox church in Greece told a rally in

Some 5,000 demonstrators marched through Athens chanting 'stop the murder now' after the rally and went to the Albanian embassy to demand immediate religious and political freedom there. Seraphim said the Albanian gover-

nment must grant human rights immediately to its citizens 'if it wishes to avoid bloodshed.' Greek-Albanian relations have

become increasingly tense since Greek Foreign Minister Antonis Samaras called for religious freedom The Belgrade newspaper Politika said yesterday a state of emergency

had been introduced over the past few days in the northern Albanian city of Shkoder after disturbances there and security had been reinfor-ced around Albanian leaders' residences in Tirana. It quoted But East European diplomats in

Tirana, contacted by telephone from Vienna, said they had not heard of demonstrations or disturbances in Shkoder. Albanian diplomats also denied

reports of unrest.
"We confirm that everything is normal in Albania ... the news distributed by Yugoslav sources aims at defaming our country." an embassy

spokesman in Ankara told the Turk-ish news agency Anatolia. In Rome, embassy spokesman Giovalin Sheurtaj rejected the reports that a state of emergency had

been introduced.
"We deny in the most categoric way that there has been any disorder in Albania," he said. "Everybody is as calm as ever. They are all celebrating their National Day, the feast day of the republic."

Greek-Albanian ties took a turn for the worse this week when Samaras challenged the Albanian government to disprove reports that Albanian police had murdered and tortured ethnic Greeks.

of Lenkoran were venting their anger over an Armenian parliamentary measure that implied possession of the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, said Savili Peretz, deputy director of the republic's official news agency Azerinform.

MIDEAST

US may stop arms flow to Afghan rebels

WASHINGTON, Jan 12 (Agencies): The US quietly has begun a reassessment of its policy toward Afghanistan that could result in an eventual cutoff of arms to the US-backed rebels and a greater role in settling the conflict for the United Nations.

The review, disclosed by the Washington Times, is the first signal that Washington might switch tactics following the failure of US-backed mujahedeen rebels to make significant military gains since the withdrawal of Soviet troops nearly a war ago and an escala-Soviet troops nearly a year ago and an escalation in the rebels internecine fighting.

Novelist dies

Syria expels

UN agrees

CAIRO, Jan 12, (Reuter): Thsan Abdel-Quddous, a leading Egyptism novelist and journalist jailed under the country's last king and its

revolutionary leader, has died aged

He died in a Cairo hospital last night after 10 days in a coma follow-

ing a brain haemorrhage, hospital officials said.

PARIS, Jan 12, (Reuter): Syria has

expelled French Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld, who travelled there to dis-

cuss fugitive war criminal Alois Brunner, his wife said today.

Vienna to say he had been expelled from Damascus," Beat Klarsfeld

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 12, (Kuna): The Security Council late yesterday unanimously agreed dur-

ing a brief meeting to extend theman-date of the UN observer group to Afghanistan and Pakistan for only

two months following a diplomatic

battle between the two superpowers.

The group, known as the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanis-

tan and Pakistan (Ungomap) is made up of 40 military officers, represent-ing 10 countries, from existing UN

Cross-border fight

DAKAR, Jan 12, (AP): Mauritanian

and Senegalese army units fired artillery over their contested border last weekend, killing an unknown

number of people on both sides,

Sudanese government sources said

The sources, speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity, said Mauritanian troops shelled the village of Dondou, about 400 kilometres (250 miles) nor-

thwest of Dakar, on Saturday, killing

KAMPALA, Uganda, Jan 12, (AP):

have joined thousands of panicky Ugandan fleeing a northern border

town for fear of a spillover of fighting between southern Sudan rebels and

government troops, it was reported

Eleven French medical volunte

Border panic

yesterday.

"My husband just called me from

Undersecretary of State Robert Kimmitt leaves tomorrow for a weeklong trip to Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and India to discuss the Afghan situation and other issues, the State Department said.

In Pakistan, Kimmitt is meeting with exiled leaders of Afghan rebel groups. He will also hold talks with the Pakistani leadership. The United States funnels about \$600 million worth of weapons through Pakistan to the rebels, known as mujahedeen.

In Saudi Arabia, Kimmit will discuss with officials how best to help the rebels, a US

Almost a year after the Soviet Union withdrew its troops from Afghanistan, the rebels have defied US predictions they would over-throw the government of President Najibullah. They have made some gains in the countryside but cities remain in the hands of government forces.

The government, on the other hand, has been unable to consolidate its power throughout the country, despite what US officials claim are massive infusions of Soviet arms. The United States insists it will keep backing the rebels until Najibullah, installed during the nine-year Soviet occupation of Afghstan, steps down and allows free elections. But the mujahedeen's military failure, cou-pled with infighting among factions of the rebel coalition, is raising concern in Washing-

"We're taking a fresh look," said one US official. "Policy must always reflect changing circumstances," he added, speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity.
"I'm glad the Bush administration is reas-

phrey, a strong ally of the mujahedeen. "Our policy has been on auto-pilot since the end of the Reagan administration."

US tactics toward the mujahedeen must change to fit the changed situation on the ground following the Soviet pullout, including new training and a different mix of

The United States should also demand that the Pakistani secret service, which distributes the US weapons, stop playing the different Afghan groups off against each other and provide them with their fair share of weapons.

Syria pledges to talk withdrawal timetable

Aoun supporters occupy Lebanese mission in Paris

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (Agencies): Syria gave Saudi Arabia and other Arab states an unpublicised written pledge to negotiate a timeta-ble for withdrawing all of its 40,000 troops from Lebanon, a leading US newspaper reported today.

The Washington Post's report was based on interviews with unidentified diplomatic sources in Damascus and other Arab capitals. The paper reported that its sources said the secret commitment was signed by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa during an Oct 20 visit to Damascus by his Saudi counterpart, Prince Saud Faisal.

The paper said Syrian officials would not comment when asked

about the secret pledge.
It said diplomats speculate that Syria fears disclosure would be widely viewed as a victory for Gen Michel Aoun, the Lebanese strongman who has marshaled Christian opposition to the Taif agreement on grounds it does not lay out a public timetable for withdrawal of the Syrian military from Lebanon.

Air traffic was halted at Beirut's international airport for 30 minutes tonight by a power cut, airport sources said.

Three flights were delayed taking off, affecting some 500 travellers.

"One plane landed but that was at the pilot's own responsibility. More than 100 passengers were on board," said an airport source.

The sources said the airport's own generator was out of order when public power was cut due to rationing, which results from civil war damage. After 30 minutes, the state electricity company restored power.

In Paris a group of supporters dramatise their opposition to diplomatic appointments made by Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Hoss, organisers of the

protest said. In a statement the group of

US cuts

to FAO

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (AP):

The United States has sharply

reduced its annual contribution

to a UN food agency that supported the PLO and warned it

might pull out of the world body

altogether, the State Department

"The United States has deter-

said on Wednesday.

garet Tutwiler.

It said the commitment was part of an overall political accord reached with Lebanese legislators who met in Taif, Saudi Arabia, in

The sources said the document reflects what is already publicly stated in the Taif accords: That within two years of the formation of a 'national unity" government and the initiation of political reforms, Syria will redeploy its troops from Beirut to the western Bekaa valley and then negotiate with the new government on a timetable for full withdrawal from Lebanon.

Shiites reinforce frontlines

BEIRUT, Jan 12. (Agencies): Rival Shiite militias fought with machineguns and rockets and strengthened battle-lines in south Lebanon today, spurning Iranian mediation efforts to end their three-week-old

Security sources said Hezbollah and the Syrianbacked Amal militias appeared poised for a major escalation of the fighting in the Iqlim Al Tufab area, 40 km (25 miles) south of Beirut.

Both sides sent in reinforcements and the rival gun-men were seen digging fresh trenches and building concrete and sand fortifications in the mountainous battlezone today, the sources said.

"The area is now on top of a volcano," one security source said yesterday. "If in 48 hours a solution was not found to the political problems between them, a big explosion will take place in the south." The inter-Shiite battles, which crupted on Dec 23,

have killed at least 80 people, wounded 285, forced thousands to flee their homes and caused extensive

The sources said commandos of PLO leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah group also reinforced their positions in the contested area.

Some 600 Palestinian fighters deployed last week

along a three km (two mile) front in Iqlim Al Tufah in

an attempt to separate the rival factions, vvint for leadership of Lebanon's 1.3 million Shiites.

A Palestinian field commander warned Hezbollah yesterday that his men would return fire if attacked again. A Palestinian fighter was killed and seven were wounded when a mortar shell fired by Hezbollah hit a Palestinian position on Wednesday.

Hezbollah, trained, equipped and financed by Tehran, has had the upper hand in the fighting so far having seized five previously Amai-controlled villages.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Ali Besharati has tried to end the bloody conflict by negotiation since arriving in Beirut on Sunday.

Political sources said he met Amal and Hezbollah

fficials at the Iranain embassy in Beirut yesterday but failed to break the deadlock as neither was prepared to make major concessions.

Hezbollah demanded guarantees that a peace pact signed last January with Amal would be implemented perore they pull out.

Amal insists Hezbollah withdraws from all captured territory before talks and rejected an offer from the pro-Iranian militia to relinquish one captured village

mior to negotiations.

More than 900 people have been killed in the almost two-year-old inter-Shiite conflict.

around 50 said they were opposed to new ambassadors Hoss announced for the United of Aoun occupied the Lebanese States and some European embassy to France yesterday to recapitals on grounds the changes States and some European amounted to a "campaign of destabilisation of the diplomatic corps" designed to make Lebanon "subservient" to Syria.

The protesters barricaded themselves into the mission and

took over its switchboard. Embassy employees did not call the police, evidently hoping the demonstrators would leave of # their own accord.

The Syrian-backed Hoss announced new ambassadors for Paris, London, Bern, Rome and the UN yesterday. In Paris ambassador Fouad Turk, widely considered an independent-min-

ded envoy, was ordered replaced by Johnny Abdo, formerly ambassador in bein.

John Ramsey appealed on Wed-nesday for the release of all Western hostages in Lebanon, saying the kidnappers would reap no benefit from the captives' prolonged plight.



Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir greets US Undersecretary of Defence, Paul Wolfowitz. (Reuter

mined that for our calendar year 1989 it would pay the \$18 million necessary to retain our vote in the Food and Agriculture Organisation," said spokeswoman Mar-

The United States is supposed to pay \$61.4 million for 1989, which is 25 per cent of the agency's budget.
"We will reassess our par-

ticipation in the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation during 1990," Tutwiler added.

US ire was sparked by the agency's governing council, which voted overwhelmingly last November to help the PLO teach Palestinians how to grow food in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The UN agency ignored repeated US warnings — both private and public — against adopting the resolution, which was introduced by Arab members in the 110-nation body.

The United States also was angered by the budget adopted at the meeting, which projected a three per cent growth for 1990 and 1991, said another source. The Rome-based organisation ignored a US demand for a budget freeze pending reforms, the

Contributing further to the decision about the aid cuts was the governing council's decision to deny US representative Dan Amstutz his right to chair the food and agriculture council under a rotation system, the

The United States has clashed repeatedly with the United Nations and its affiliated agencies over their budgets and their support for the PLO.

Israel to cut size of army tructure, both the planes and runways," Rom said.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 12, (AP): Israel will cut the size of its army and reduce the number of days reservists must serve next year to cover the costs of handling the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, a Defence Ministry official said on Wednesday.

The official declined to say how much Israel's

standing army would be reduced, but he said the goal was to trim some 700,000 days from total

The Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies estimates the size of Israel's army at 130,000 regular soldiers and 310,000 reservists. The total force is 540,000 when Air Force and navy personnel are included. Cufbacks also will affect the Air Force, Brig. Gen. Giora Rom. the Air Force deputy commander, told

"We have cut the number of flight hours, cut

purchases of spare parts again ... and cut the infras-

He said reserve duty days for airmen also would be Rom said the cutbacks could affect the Air Force combat readiness because there was less money to

fund practice flying hours. The ministry official, who insisted on anonymity, said the cutbacks were necessary because the Defence Ministry is not being fully compensated for the costs of dealing with the uprising.

Thousands of soldiers and paramilitary troops have been posted in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip since December 1987 when the Palestin-

According to government figures, the Israeli army will have spent about 940 million shekels (\$470 million) on the uprising by the time the fiscal year ends on March 30. The army estimates the 1990-91 fiscal year costs at 450 million shekels (\$225 million).

Israel planspolls even if talks fail

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, Jan 12, (Agencies): Foreign Minister Moshe Arens has proposed that Israel go ahead with elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip on its own if American efforts to mediate Israeli-Palesimians talks fail, an aide said today.

A senior official in the Foreign Ministry, who insisted on anon-ymity, said Arens had raised the idea but that no detailed plan has

There have been newspaper reports in recent days, however, that a government team has begun studying ways to set up balloting in the occupied territories, includ-ing creation of voting districts.

In an interview published in the Hebrew daily Yediot Ahronot earlier this week, Arens said: "The elections in the territories will take place because we will hold them, with or without the initiative of the United States."

If the mediation efforts by US Secretary of State James A. Baker III fail, Areas added, Israel "will take the step of elections in the territories by ourselves."

Baker has been trying to arrange talks in Washington with Arens and Egyptian Foreign Min-ister Esmat Abdel-Meguid to set the stage for an Israeli-Palestin-ian dialoguid

ian dialogue in Cairo.

The Cairo dialogue would be aimed at advancing Israel's call for elections in the territories to select Palestinians to open talks

on limited autonomy with Israel. Baker has not yet scheduled the tripartite meeting because of Israeli insistance of advance American "guarantees" that the PLO will not be directly or

indirectly involved in talks. Israel considers the PLO to be a terrorist group.

Egypt, and then Baker, offered

Forael's initial help last year after Israel's initial call for elections was rejected by

in the territories. Saed Barakat, a pro-PLO

professor, told the Associated Press today that Areas' latest election call was destined to fail. "The issue here .. is why elec-

tions are being considered," Barakatsaid. "Israel is coming up with the election idea again to try to circumvent the uprising." Barakat added: "We can't bold

any elections in the occupied territories without acceptance of the PLO, our sole legitimate

Israeli Vice-Premier Shimon Peres has threatened to pull out of the coalition government if it fails to seize the initiative in Middle East peace efforts on which it has so far stalled.

"I feel the peace process has now reached the moment of decision and if the decision is against the peace process ... I as a member of the Labour Party will megairocally be in favour of drawing the necessary con-clusions," Peres told reporters

"I am is the government because I think the peace process is essential to the state of Israel's

Palestinians in the West Bank set fire to a bus taking Arab work-ers to their jobs in Israel today only hours after the army sealed the homes of four men accused of similar attacks,

Residents and military sources said masked activists ordered the workers and the Israeli Arab driver off the bas in Nablus before burning it.
In the West Bank village of

Sailet Al Harthiyeh, troops sealed the homes of four Palestiniaus accused of burning two Israeli buses last mouth and assaulting Arabs suspected of collaborating with security forces.



Arafat (left) and Egyptian President Mubarak in a joyful mood meet at

Arafat threat to take tougher line

CAIRO, Jan 12, (Agencies): Palestinian President Yasser Arafat has warned that unless the PLO peace initiative receives a positive response, he would have to go back to the Palestine National Council to take the appropriate measures toward Israel's pigheadedness and the US bias with Tel Aviv.

Speaking at an art and cultural festival on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Palestinian struggle, Arafat affirmed that Israel foiled all peace efforts, even the five points of US State Secretary James Baker when it asked that it names the Palestinian delegation to the negotiations as its term to accept the

"Since we challenged Israel and accepted the elections initiative, it (Israel) has been coming up with a new excuse every day," he said.

Arafat once again lashed out at Washington for siding with Tel Aviv by taking a passive position regarding the 10-point plan of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

The Palestinian President reviewed the tape of the PLO's peace efforts since 1974, until its peace initiative last year in Geneva, which was met with world-wide approval.

The opening ceremonies of the

week-long festival, was attended by Egyptian Culture Minister Farouk Hosni, member of the PLO's executive committee Abdulla Al Hourani and other Arab and Palestinian artists and thinkers.

Palestinian leaders are 10 discus within a week whether to call a session of their Parliament to look at slow progress in Middle East peace efforts, a leading member of the main PLO group Fatah said.

Salah Khalaf, a close associate of Arafat, said he favoured holding such a session.

We'll study the question carefully to see whether it would improve our position or not ... I personally will speak in favour. Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, told Reuters.

He had said earlier he supported the idea because the PLO had "to reassess the coming phase and study the new situation.

Abu Iyad is the second leading member of Fatah in two days to back the proposal, first suggested by George Habash, leader of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO's chief of foreign affairs, said in Jordan on Wednesday he supported the call for a meeting of the Parliament, known as the

Arabs flee hardship in occupied territories

Jordan alarmed

told Reuters today.

emigrating Jew."

another exodus."

Masarweh in his column

referred to a dramatic upsurge in

Soviet Jews settling in the

occupied territories, saying each Palestinian leaving his 🗢

homeland is making space for an

Crown Prince Hassan warned

last October that all but 18,000 of

the 200,000 Jews expected to

leave the Soviet Union between 1989 and 1990 would end up in

the occupied territories "at the

expense of the Palestinians there,

and, by extension, at the expense

of Jordan since there could be

AMMAN, Jan 12, (Reuter): almost double compared to Israeli-held territories to come to Jordan in increasing numbers because of hardships due to the two-year-old revolt against Israeli rule, officials said today.

The trend is alarming Jordan-ian officials who fear the Amman government may have to take tough measures to stop the exodus.

"If we emigrate from our land who will be left there to fight?" asked leading Jordanian columnist Tareq Masarweh. He said the bridges across the Jordan river should be closed.

Mohammed Edwan, head of the Interior Ministry's control and inspection department, said last year 269,835 people crossed from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to Jordan while only 262,894 people returned. Since mid-1983 a total of

45,594 people from the West Bank and Gaza Strip had taken a one-way ticket to Jordan, Edwan

"What is even more terrible is that the figures of those who did not return home in 1989 are

"Either we have a land or we don't ... either we stay on the land of Palestine or they (Israelis) stay." Masarweh said. "Our war with Zionism is a battle on the land of the conflict itself."

"How come we condemn the right-wing Israeli 'theory of transfer that is based on moving the Palestinians into Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt ... when we are facilitating its implementation?" he said.

Iranian chastity march NICOSIA, Jan 12, (Reuter): Thousands of Iranian women

took part in "vanguards of chastity" marches through Tehran today calling for strict enforcement of Islamic dress.

Tehran Radio said they hit out at "decadent manifestations of the western civilisation" and particularly at "bad-hijabi"—imperfect adherence to the hijab dress code for women.

Iranian officials have come under fire in recent weeks for what critics see as loosening of Islamic values and tolerance of women who appear in public showing locks of hair or wearing makeup in defiance.

"American culture promotes bad-hijabi. Its enemies are revolutionary women," the women chanted while converging on Tehran University on three different routes, the radio said. Presiden Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjami, leading mass prayers at the university, said Iran was going against a worldwide trend of immorality and nakedness.

Rafsanjani said the march underlined the important benefits women had reaped from the Islamic revolution and it would be unfair to disregard the achievements solely because "a few women still did not wear complete hijab here or there."

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (Reuter): The United States said yesterday a Soviet decision to PLO was detrimental to Middle East peace efforts and did not demonstrate a serious approach to solving the region's decadesold conflict.

representation to an embassy. State Department spokesman

Margaret Tutwiler said: "Any peace efforts.

"We've said from the beginning of this process that what's required is a practical approach practical steps and they know what those are."

ANKARA, Jan 12, (Agencies): The University of Ankara has banned the wearing of Islamic-style headscarves by women students

said today. "We are concerned that this issue could be used to foment unrest among students of differing views. We have a duty to preserve peace," rector Necdet Serin told Reuters. The 1985 ban on the wearing of head-

scarvers at Turkish universities, a contentious issue between the country's secular liberals and an Islamic movement on the rise since the early 1980s, was lifted last month.

The change followed street protests by

Ankara University bans wearing of headscarves Islamic militants challenging the Westernising reforms of Kemal Ataturk and the secular

republic he formed in 1923. But the ruling allowed Turkey's 29 universities to set their own dress code.

We believe there are attempts to drag the students into the kind of incidents we had before 1980," Serin said, referring to a military coup and a crackdown on right and left-wing political extremism.

Serin said the university decided on Wednesday to ban its 30,000 students from wearing headscarves and "any garment symbolising a religion, ideology or a political creed."
"Our decision binds both men and women students and stipulates clothing befitting a student," he said.

Ankara's English-language Middle East Technical University has also prohibited the wearing of headscurves on campus.

Members of Turkey's Women Association and Association of University Educated Women visited university presidents here and sent telegrams to presidents elsewhere in the country on Wednesday demanding the continuation of the ban.

"We are not going to keep quiet. So far we did not take to the streets but if the government keeps provoking us, we will," said Birten Gokyay.

Loic Flachet, a representative of the French Medicins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) in Kampala, said the five women and six men had been treating Ugandans suffer-ing from sleeping sickness, a disease Plot to down plane

ADDIS ABABA, Jan 12, (Reuter): A Ethiopian state prosecutor said today that 14 military officers plan-ned to shoot down President Meng-

istu Haile Mariam's plane as a prelude to setting up a new govern-Summing up charges against 14 senior officers accused of involvement in a failed coup attempt

last May, he told a military tribunal that the men had also reached agreement with anti-government rebels in the northern provinces of

Gulf of Agaba

gressman James Scheuer said yester-day he was exploring prospects of regional co-operation to protect and develop resources in the Gulf of Aqaba, a waterway shared by Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel. "They have to co-operate to survive," said Scheuer, a veteran democratic congressman from New York state who chairs the house sub-

committee of natural resources.

AMMAN, Jan 12, (AP): US Con-

agriculture research and the environ-Summit postponed
TUNIS, Jan 12. (Reuter): A summit
of five North African leaders has been postponed for a second time after Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi said he could not make the

dates favoured by King Hassan of An official announcement in Tunis on Wednesday night said the heads of state of the five member states of the Arab Maghreb Union would now meet in Tunis from January 2) to 23.

NICOSIA, Jan 12, (Reuter): Cases of drug trafficking in Saudi Arabia have dropped by half since the kingdom decided to behead offenders, a Saudi Interior Ministry official said today.

The kingdom reported 99 public beheadings last year, many of them

Drug crimes haived

Police attacked ALGIERS, Jan 12. (Reuter): Scores of people led by an Islamic militant tried to break into a police station in Algiers on Tuesday to free a man

for drug trafficking.

arrested for selling smuggled goods, the official news agency APS said. Police dispersed the crowd and made seven arrests, the agency added in a report on Wednesday night. Population explodes CAIRO. Jan 12. (Reuter): Egypt's population, already crammed into the country's small stretch of fertile

land, will top 70 million by the end of

the century.

Mokhtar Hallouda, chairman of the Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics, told Reuters on Wednesday that preliminary forecasts showed the population ris-ing to between 71 million and 75 million by the year 2,000 from 55 to

Soviet move unhelpful: US

upgrade its relations with the

The Kremlin announced on Wednesday it would allow the upgrading of the PLO's Moscow

unilateral act to enhance the status of the so-called state of Palestine can only have a detrimental effect on current

to solve problems. A measure of Soviet seriousness will be their willingness to take and support

fearing it may spark campus unrest, the rector

US share prices plunge

WASHINGTON, Jan 12, (Reuter): A prices report indicating that infla-tion remains a stubborn problem in the weakening US economy sent Wall Street shares into a tailspin when the New York Stock Exchange opened today.

The Labour Department reported that prices at the wholesale level were up a sharp 0.7 per cent in December after a 0.1 per cent drop in November, a price jump that took analysts by surprise.

The higher-than-expected price figure combined with steep market declines in London and Tokyo to push Wall Street stocks and the dollar down. At 11 am the Dow Jones industrial account. industrial average was down 45.23 points at 2,715.02.

The dollar fell to 1.6770 West German marks from 1.6805 at Thurs-

The December gain lifted the producer price index to a gain of 4.8 per cent for all of 1989, compared with a 4.0 per cent rise in the previous year, the department said.

Energy prices, reflecting freezing temperatures last month, reboun-ded, gaining 1.4 per cent after a 3.3 per cent drop in November.

Wall Street economists had forecast a gain of 0.5 per cent for December. The index measures the average price producers pay for commodities and equipment at all stages of production and is an indication of

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future prices at the retail level. Economists said the figures show that inflation remains a stubborn problem in the US economy, dimming hopes the Federal Reserve will push down interest rates.

"The underlying trends in inflation show no evidence of any decline," said Charles Lieberman, director of Financial Market Research at Manufacturers Hanover

World airline traffic likely to double in '90s

GENEVA, Jan 12, (Reuter): The world's airlines, ending a decade of rapid growth, will probably carry more than twice as many people by the year 2000, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said

That will present an enormous challenge of expanding auroors and jet fleets. Guenter Eser, director gas eral of the 189-arrine organisation,

said in a press statement.
"The world's airlines had a spectacularly successful period of growth during the 1980s," he said, noting an increase to 1.1 billion passenger journeys last year from 750 milion in 1980 as regulatory controls were dis-

The most critical challenge in the coming decade will be absorbing the forecast growth, he said.

Airlines to be merged

SANAA, Jan 12, (Reuter): North and South Yemen, pursuing unifica-tion moves, plan to merge their zurlines to form a combined fleet of 12 planes, a North Yemeni newspaper

The weekly September 26 said Sanaa and Aden will soon start "taking the necessary steps for the merger of Yemen Airways of the North with

Yamda, the South Yemeni airline." Yemen Airways has seven planes. Its average annual gross profit is around 40 million rials (\$4 million). Since 1978 it has been a joint-stock company with Saudi Arabia holding 49 per cent of the shares. The paper did not say what would happen to the Saudi investment in a merger. South Yemen's Yamda Airline

owns five planes. The newspaper said the merger "comes in accordance with the Aden agreement in Nov 30, 1989, which called for the merger of institution and organisations on both sides to get maximum benefit from their potential and for the welfare of the Yemeni people in a unified country.



KUWAIT, Jan 12 (Kuna): Following a UWA11, Jan 12, (Kuna): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period Bld Offered Incents

I month

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Prices are still falling

GCC set to continue industrial development

DUBAI, Jan 12, (Reuter): Industrial development in Gulf Arab oil states seems destined to remain hostage to world markets for the forseeable future as their small economies and populations are unlikely to achieve a viable market of their own.

In the 1990s, the six states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) look set to coninue high-cost development of major petro-chemical and aluminium industries, which they can feed from their own gas and oil

There is little else they can do, Arab economists in the region say.

"As far as other industries are concerned, there is very limited potential because the size of the market is so small. We have six

countries here with a population no bigger than East Germany," said one senior Gulfbased bank econo

The only viable regional internal Gulf market would have to include Iran and Iraq, and perhaps the two Yemens at the Red Sea end of the Arabian Peninsula. That would make a hypothetical market of around 90 Ultimately, the Gulf region must have

Iran and Iraq to have a market," said one Historical, political, social, religious and conomic factors make that a near impos

Industrial investments in the Gulf are at

by creating a value-added use for oil and gas

The oldest regional industry is oil refining where there is a good deal of export capacity. But critics say Gulf export refineries are at imes unprofitable when higher oil prices are added to transport costs to far away US European and Asian markets.

Only Kuwait, by buying an extensive con-sumer sales network in Europe, has so far overcome this handicap by suppling its own petrol stations direct from its own refineries. Regional states also plan expansion of their petrochemical and aluminium indus-

Emirates, prompted Saudi Arabia and Qatar to plan their own.

Industry analysts say good world demand, cheap power, and recently found bauxite reserves in Saudi Arabia promises a stable future for Gulf aluminic

But supply of petrochemicals is outgrowing world demand and analysts predict the Gulf industry will have to continue to con-tend with high tariff barriers in industrial countries, notably the European Economic Community, and with oversupplied mark-

A recent study on demand for polyethylene, one of the major petrochemical products, by Phillips Petroleum Singapore

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product will rise to 38 million tonnes by 1992, against world demand of 32 million

Prices are still falling. The east Asia chemical price index, which reflects petrochemicals prices, had dipped to around 130 in early January from a peak of 240 in the

Some analysts, however, believe the bleak outlook may force EEC producers out of the market and EEC tariffs of up to 13.5 per cent on Gulf products could then be removed. "Sooner or later, the EEC will have to

concede the Gulf's advantage in producing The 1990s pose a problem largely because

world crude prices.

For example, Saudi Arabia spent around
\$10 billion since 1976 to establish two industrial crues at Yanbu and Jubail with 15 plants, 12 of them producing petrochemicals and fertilisers. The others

produce steel products and oxygen.

The cities were planned when oil prices were running around \$40 per barrel and the use of cheap gas supplies as feedstock was expected to create an advantage over the ones in the West, which used expensive oil

But with the slump in prices in the mid 1980s this advantage was lost.

local states planned their long-term

Plan to cut refinery runs

Kuwait, UAE cut oil output

Gulf states whose oil output is crucial to world prices trimmed production in the first 10 days of January, but a third and biggest
- Saudi Arabia — made little
change, Gulf oil industry sources

said yesterday. Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia produced a total of aimost 10 million barrels per day (bpd) of oil in December.

The 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) produced a total average of 23.7 million bpd in the October-December period, the group's highest since the first quarter of 1981, the International Energy Agency, the West's energy watchdog, said earlier this week

waiting to see whether Opec members will lower their output to the 22.1 million bpd level set at their. November ministerial emething for their that all 990 to The pact took effect on Jan

Oil markets are anxiously

ary 1.
Demand for oil is usually low

in the first quarter of each year after a buildup of stocks ahead of the northern hemisphere winter. Continued high Opec output in the same quarter could well depress oil prices, industry analysts said.

Exact output levels are hard to pin down as all countries keep production figures confidential. However, exports levels and refinery runs broadly indicate production levels.

"(Crude) exports from Saudi terminals so far are as heavy as December," one oil industry source in the kingdom said.

But he added that judging on tanker loading schedules, exports in the last two weeks of January would be lower, which could put Saudi Arabia's average output in January around its new Opec allocation of 5.38 million

Saudi Arabia's December output was seen around 5.65 million bpd in a Reuter survey, including

million had in the same Decem-

level so far this month.

Output by Abu Dhabi, the emirate producing most among the seven forming the UAE, was estimated at 1.9 million bpd in December. Oil analysts said it should cut output as its fields needed maintenance after months of high production.

"Abu Dhabi has a political decision to lower output to 1.5-1.6 million bpd," one Gulf oil analyst said. "They are trying to

cut output to that level."

The UAE stayed out of the Opec agreement last November, maintaining that its allocation was too small

It is free to set its own production level, but oil industry sources said they expected January average production to be two million bpd. Dubai, the second oil producer in the UAE, produces around 400,000 bpd.

Other oil sources said Kuwait is a currely round at the control of the current of

Opec oil earnings soar

'A big pleasant surprise'

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Jan 12, (AP): Lifted by higher prices and stronger production, the oil revenues of he Opec nations soared last year to their highest levels since 1985, according to analysts' estimates.

Pierre Terzian, editor of the Paris-based newsletter Perrostratesies said the armines when the Open and the Open armines for the Open and the Open armines for t

Petrostrategies, said the earnings surge for the Organisa-tion of Petroleum Exporting Countries was "a big pleasant surprise ... nobody expected it would be as high as this." They should have done quite comfortably," said Paul McDonald, a London-based oil consultant.

Terzian estimated the organisation's 13 nations earned a total of \$110.6 billion last year from export sales of their crude oil, up more than a third from his calculation of 1988

Peter Bogin, assistant director for oil markets at Cambridge Energy Research Associates in Paris, figured the exports, including natural gas liquids and related products, at \$111.5 billion in 1989.

Last year's showing was the best since 1985 when the producing nations, which depend heavily on sales of their oil to foreign customers, posted earnings of \$127.2 billion. Opec's revenues swung wildly in the 1980s, reflecting the sharp rise and fall of crude oil prices.

The revolution in Iran in 1979 resulted in a steepdrop in production by that key supplying nation. World oil prices spun above \$40 for a 42-gallon (159-litre) barrel. Later in the decade, a production free-for-all sent prices

plummeting. Futures prices for West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark American crude oil, fell to \$10.42 a barrel

Opec's oil earnings, according to official figures, registered a record \$284.5 billion in 1980 but slumped to a decade-low \$77.3 billion in 1986. The organisation earned \$86.4 billion in 1988 from

exports, including sales of some petroleum products. The official tally for 1989 won't be released until later in the Analysts attributed last year's surprising carnings to

rising prices and output. "You had a nice combination of higher prices and higher production," said McDonald.

The average price of seven crude oils monitored by Opec was \$17.31 a barrel last year, up about \$3 from 1988. It was \$20.46 a barrel last week, well above the organisa-

tion's \$18 target. West Texas Intermediate has been running in the range

of \$21 to \$23 a barrel. Bogin estimated the organisation's average production was 21.7 million barrels a day last year, compared with 19.7 million barrels in 1988. He said demand for Opec's oil

was strong, particularly from robust economies in the Far Looking ahead, he predicted the average price of Opec's

basket of crude oils would run in the range of \$16 to \$18 a barrel this year. Production would likely average 23 billion

Measures to reactivate economy

Bank merger plan ruled out

KUWAIT, Jan 12. (Kuna): Chairman of the board of the Burgan Bank Sheikh Ahmad Abdalla Al Ahmad yesterday denied that plans were being drawn to merge the bank with another financial compan Speaking to a local newspaper, Sheikh Ahmad said Kuwait Investment Authority which owns more than

50 per cent of the bank's shares has not "expressed its intention" to merge Burgan Bank with another fin-The banking official's remarks were triggered by

rumours that the bank was to merge with another bank or company in light of recent government recommendations to review the performance of Kuwaiti financial companies.

The recommendations, prepared by a commission grouping private and government experts, were to be

effective with the beginning of the year. They were introduced in an attempt to re-activate the stagmant Kuwaiti economy and had recommended steps in all major commercial activities. Sheikh Ahmad said that the current law regulating

the activities of companies "obstructs" merger plans and suggested that the law be amended first before planning any mergers.

Meanwhile, board chairman of the Kuwait and Middle East Bank Ali Rashid Al Bader told the newspaper that merging local financial firms will be "a very difficult task faced with many obstacles."

He pointed out that until now no measures have been taken by local banks or the Central Bank of Kuwait to facilitate commencement of merger plans.

New plane's first flight a success

LONG BEACH, California, Jan 12, (AP): The MD-11, the wide-bodied jetliner McDonnell Douglas hopes will bring it billions of dollars in the 1990s, soared off on

its maiden flight Wednesday. The plane completed a series of tests including studies of its handling capabilities, said McDonnell Douglas spokesman Steve Swinney. Pilot John Miller, chief of flight operations for the MD-11 programme, said the

plane was stable and handled well. The plane's takeoff, delayed several hours by thick fog that didn't clear over Long Beach airport until about noon, was witnessed by thousands of McDonnell Douglas employees, Swinney said.

The MD-11 is "quite important to McDonnell Douglas," said Lawrence Harris, an aerospace analyst with the Bateman Eichler Hill Richards Brokerage in Los Angeles. "The successful certification of the MD-11 will generate a significant portion of Douglas' revenues over the next several years."

It will compete against the A-330 and A-340 jetliners being manufactured by the European consortium Airbus Industrie, which also carry about 350 passengers and cost about the same.

Boeing's 777, to be introduced in the mid-1990s, will also compete with the MD-11s. Harris said the company is counting on

commercial aircraft unit for profit growth because of "the likelihood of a flattening defence budget and the significant commercial backlog that exists for both the MD-80 and the MD-11."

The company has 118 orders and 194 options for MD-11s, which Harris said will cost about \$90 million apiece. Under the most optimistic schedule, the company could have the plane tested, approved and 10 jets delivered by the end of the year, he said.

The maximum nonstop range for the standard MD-11 is up to 8,039 miles (12,937 kilometres) with 323 passengers and luggage. McDonnell Douglas spokesman Keith Takahashi said the company can produce allpassenger and freighter versions as well as a

combination passenger-cargo aircraft.

The planes are powered by the quieter, more energy-efficient engines made by General Electric, Rolls Royce and Pratt and Whitney. Customers will be able to choose the

World economy likely to slow further in '90

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 12, (Reuter): The world economy is expected to slow down further in 1990 and the developed countries could face a recession, the United Nations said in a forecast published yesterday.

The UN Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, in its annual survey, predicted three per cent growth in world output for 1990, below an estimated 3.2 per cent growth last year and 4.4 per cent growth in 1988.

The developed countries, which also grew 3.2 per cent last year, might grow by less than three per cent in 1990, it said.

"Although the rate of growth of the developed market economies is expected only to slow down, a sharper deceleration or a recession remains a possibility," it

But it said modest growth was expected in developing countries after slow growth in many of them last year, particularly in Latin America and Africa.

A further moderate deceleration was expected for South and East Asia but the average rate of growth in the region would still remain high by most standards.

In China, growth was expected to be close to the sharply reduced 1989 rate and a quick return to the rapid growth of the 1980s was not expected.



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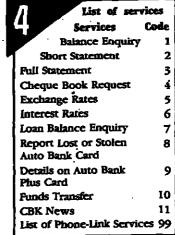
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France eases rules on foreign investment

PARIS, Jan 12. (AP): The govern-ment unveiled plans Wednesday to ease rules on foreign investment in France by groups from outside the 12-nation European Economic

The obligatory Treasury Ministry review of planned investments by non-community companies will now be limited to one month, government spokesman Louis le Pensee said after the weekly cabinet meeting. No time limit previously existed.

Failure by the treasury to reject a proposal within 30 days will mean the project can automatically go for-

The new measure concerns only the acquisition of French companies by groups outside the community. Current laws already allow foreign groups to freely create new companies under most circumstances.

Groups from within the community already have broad freedom to buy French concerns as long as they keep the government informed France reserves the right to veto investment in companies involved in national defence.

KD deposit rates firm

KUWAIT, Jan 12, (Reuter): Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit rates firmed in esponse to borrowing demand on Thursday as an influx of liquidity from government payments was quickly taken up.

Dealers said many banks were short on funds because they had lent fixed period maturities at low rates heavily last year amid expectations rates could decline in 1990.

"Everyone is heavily short," one dealer said. Dinar rates had initially eased on Wednesday following the influx of funds from the Central Bank.

Overnight jumped more than half a point, dealing at 8-1/8 per cent then 8-1/4 following offers of 7-34 on Wednesday. It ended the day well-bid at 8-3/8 per cent.

Quotes for the tomorrow-next and spot-next both rose to 8-5/8, 3/8 from offers of eight.

	Indian rupee Sri Lankan rupee	. 0.017340 · 0.007380
	Pakistani rupee	0.013740
	Bangladesh taka	. 0.008970
	US dollar	. 0.292050
	Pound sterling UAE dirham	0.480000
	Deutsche mark	. 0.173100
Ì	Japanese yen	. 0.002018

Kaifu, Thatcher to discuss Japan support for Hong Kong

Japan's work, dynamism and efficiency hailed

LONDON, Jan 12. (Reuter): Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has brought a pledge to London that Japan will continue to bolster Hong Kong's sagging self-confidence by keeping an economic presence there.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Kaifu during three-hour meeting today are also expected to welcome China's decision to lift martial law, Japanese officials travelling with Kaifu said.

Following last June's massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing, Britain has sought to maintain confidence in Hong Kong ahead of its return to China in 1997.

Kaifu, who arrived on a whirlwind visit last night, also faces criticism of his country's whaling activities following a campaign by the British-based environmental group Greenpeace.

Thatcher will be presented with a petition signed by more than 100 British members of parliament asking her to urge Kaifu to stop Japanese whaling. The Japanese officials said the

two leaders were not likely to discuss trade issues between Europe and Japan at length. In Paris, French cabinet ministers made a series of verbal attacks on Japan's closed markets, one calling Japan an adver-

sary set "to conquer the world."
President Francois Mitterrand, smoothing over a harsh attack on Tokyo by his European Affairs Minister. Edith Cresson, praised Japan's remarkable work dynamism and efficiency" in talks with Kaifu yesterday, officials said.

However the socialist Mitterrand also told Kaifu during their talks at the Elysee Palace that Japanese industriousness had given Japan a "dominant position" in world trade, posing the problem of protectionism, Elysee spokesman Hubert Vedrine said.

"Sometimes the Japanese market is not protected but it is impenetrable for reasons that belong to our culture," Mitterrand was quoted as saying. Kaifu replied that Japan had

cancelled customs duties on "more than 1,000 products" over the past six months. Japan, said Kaifu, was "on the right road." The discussions said Mit-

terrand praised the "remarkable work, dynamism and efficacity" of Japan in the world of com-

Diplomatic sources said Mitterrand evidently went out of his way to smooth ruffled Japanese feathers after Cresson in an interview published Wednesday called Japan an "adversary" that

wants to conquer the world." "It is clear that today Japan is an adversary that does not play the game and and which has an absolute will to conquer the world,"

Despite pledges to import more European Economic Community goods, Japan's trade surplus has widened to \$22.8 billion in 1988, more than double the surplus of \$11.1 billion in 1985.

Cambodia also was among subjects Kaifu and Mitterrand discussed. The two agreed it is "desirable that China play a positive role" in the search for a solution to the conflict there — diplomatic language meaning that Beijing should use its influence with the Khmer

Rouges to stop the fighting. Kaifu said the Khmer Rouge was the faction causing most of the problems. Mitterrand concurred saying "no compromise is acceptable with the Khmer

Rouges."
Kaifu is touring Europe in an

remove 20 years of mistrust arising from trade problems between Europe and Japan.

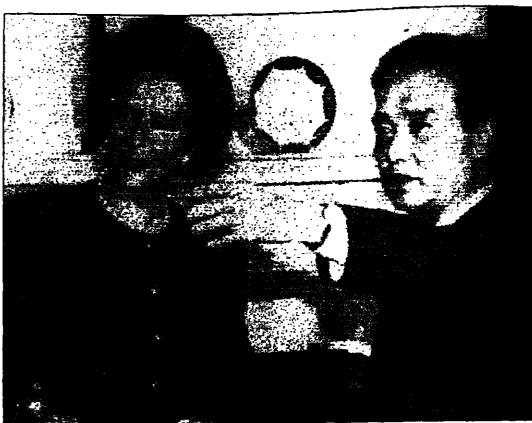
In his talks with Thatcher, Kaifu is expected to agree with Britain's cautious stance on disarmament and exchange views on how to support Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's government and his reforms.

But Kaifu plans to tell That-cher that Moscow's foreign policy towards Asia sharply contrast with its attitude to Europe and the United States and has not brought much of a decrease in East-West tensions in the Asia-Pacific region, the officials

Kaifu is to express "understanding" at Britain's decision to forcibly repatriate Vietnamese

refugees from Hong Kong. But the officials said Kaifu would propose an "international scheme" to protect human rights among the refugees. They did not

The United States, Canada and Pope John Paul have criticised Britain's move on humanitarian grounds. Indonesia and Malaysia, which have similar problems, and Australia have expressed mild sympathy.



Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu gestures as he meets with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at Downing Street. (Reuter wirephoto)

Rafsanjani defends plan

Iran to seek \$20b in foreign investment

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Jan 12, (AP): Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani today defended his government's plan to seek \$20 billion in foreign investment and insisted this would not drag Iran into "dependence," Tehran Radio reported.

The government's five-year plan to rebuild the country's warbattered economy was approved earlier this week after months of debate.

The controversy focused on Rafsanjani's ambitious plans to normalise ties with the West in order to attract foreign invest-

Radical leaders, who dominate the 270-member parliament and oppose any foreign investment, argue this will lead Iran into an endless cycle of debt.

They gave the plan the green light after a stern warning Monday by the country's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to stop frustrating Rafsanjani's efforts to resuscitate the econ-

Rafsanjani, in his Friday sermon in Tehran, rejected any notion that the kind of foreign investment he was seeking would lead Iran into "dependence" on the outside world.

Speaking on the radio, mon-itored in Nicosia, he argued "this is not dependence. Dependence is created when gas, which is one of our resources, and we can use it to produce hundreds of

products, burns on land and sea. and we do not have the means to harness it now or in the next 20

Iran has signed a number of oil and gas-related agreements, primarily with the Soviet Union. which is helping in gas explora-tion under the Iranian side of the Capsian Sea bed. But these projects are being financed by huge exports of natural gas which will be piped to the Soviet Union starting in March.

Rafsanjani denied that the \$20 million his government is seeking to rebuild oil-related industries battered in the Gulf war, and to construct a number of dams, amounted to a loan.

42.50 42.50 41.50

He said any foreign invest-ment in Iran would be repaid from profits after the projects reached production stage.

The eight-year war with Iraq, which halted in August 1988, tapped an annual \$10 billion of the country's resources. Many of Iran's industries are outdated or have fallen into disrepair. Rafsanjani acknowledged

that in his five-year plan "expenditure is based on earnings, but we have some needs in the petrochemical industry and to build some dams, for which we don't have enough foreign exchange." Spending in the five-year plan is projected at \$350 billion, of

which \$112 billion reportedly

will be in foreign exchange.

Fuel oil up

US wholesale prices jump

washing 10n, 3an 12 (Ar): Os wholesale prices jun-ped 0.7 per cent in December to boost inflation for 1989 to 4.8 per cent. The worst showing in eight years, the govern-ment said today.

The gain in the Labour Department's producer price index for finished goods, one stop short of retail, topped last year's rate of 4.0 per cent and more than doubled the

1987 rate of 2.2 per cent.
It marked the third consecutive year that price increases have accelerated and was the steepest rise since the index shot up 7.1 per cent in 1981. The annual number for 1989 masked a roller-coaster

ride that had prices rising at better than a 9 per cent annual rate in the first five months of the year, slowing to a 1 per cent annual rate from June through November and then

soaring again in December.
Prices had fallen 0.1 per cent in November and risen 0.4 per cent in October.

As with inflation early in the year, wholesale price gains in December were fuelled by a steep rise in the energy sector, where prices rose 1.4 per cent for the month and 9.6 per cent for the entire year.

The deep freeze that gripped much of the nation last month helped boost fuel oil prices 7.1 per cent and natural gas costs 1.6 per cent. Gasoline prices were unchanged after falling 7.1 per cent in November.

For the year, fuel oil was up 33.9 per cent, the biggest rise

rose 9.2 per cent for the year and natural gas. 3.5 per cent. Economists attribute the stability of inflation outside food and energy to an anti-inflation programme by the Federal Reserve Board, which slowed the economy with higher interest rates until June. Since then, the US Central Bank has been allowing rates to fall in an effort to stop the country from toppling into a recession.

Most analysts expect the sluggishness to persist well into

the first half of this year, taking the edge off price hikes. Still, economist David Jones of Aubrey G. Lanston and Co. Inc., a government securities dealer in New York, warned that inflation won't be much lower. A tight labour market is keeping wages rising and that eventually will force corporations to raise prices despite the weak econ-

omy, he said.

"This is not a shockingly high rate of inflation we're facing, but it's stubborn," he said. "That, in turn, will: a cause the Federal Reserve to be more cautious in easing"

Meanwhile, food inflation for the year was 5.0 per cents an improvement over 5.7 per cent in 1988, when a summer

drought seared the nation's farm regions.

The various changes in December left the wholesale price index at 115.3 per cent of its 1982 base. That meant that a hypothetical marketbasket of goods cost \$115.30 in December, up from \$110 a year earlier.

Pakistan shows moderate growth

Despite drop in production

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, Jan 12, (AP): An annual economic barometer released by Pakistan's central bank showed that the country's year-old democracy managed to moderate growth rate despite a sharp drop in industrial production. For the first time in 16 years, the private sector invested heavier than its public counterpart, the State Bank of Pakistan annual report said

But the country's trade deficit took a beating climbing 2.1 per cent. The report blamed heavy flooding in Pakistan's fertile Punjab province, which destroyed much of the country's wheat crop, forcing

the government to import massive quantities of grain.

The State Bank report said Pakistan's import bill was \$7,069 million, up 10.5 per cent over last year. But if wheat and machinery imports were removed from the calculation the hike in imports would drop to 1.9 per

Exports, meanwhile, rose 5.3 per cent to \$4,693 million up from \$4.457 million.

Industrial growth edged ahead 1.2 per cent, the report said.
The State Bank report covers the last half of 1988 and the first six months of 1989.

During the year covered by the central bank report, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's left-leaning Pakistan People's Party won the largest bloc of votes in the November 1988 elections, the country's first free polls in 11 years. When Benazir took office she complained that she inherited a

bankrupt economy from her military predecessor, President Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq. Zia died in a suspicious plane crash in August Within weeks of assuming office in December, 1988, Benazir signed an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The

agreement reportedly offered an infusion of \$1 billion along with stringent economic guidelines, which her government refused to divulge.

Cotton exports dip

Egypt forced to raise imports

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, Jan 12. (Reuter): Egyptian cotton, the best quality cotton in the world and once known as the "white gold" of Egypt, faces another year of declining fortunes in 1989-90 as cotton imports rise and exports fall.

Ahmed Shouman, chairman of the Egyptian Cotton Authority, said

the harvest was expected to drop to 5.8 million kantars (254.6 million kilogrammes) in the 1989-90 season against 6.2 million kantars (272.2 million kilogrammes) in the year before. He told Reuters exports in 1989-90 would drop to 136,000 bales

against 192,000 bales, with export earnings falling by about \$100 million. The figures are for Egyptians bales, which include about one_ and a half times more cotton than American bales.

It expects to import 130,000 bales of American cotton (equivalent to

90,000 Egyptian bales) in 1989-90 against 100,000 bales (equivalent to 69,000 Egyptian bales) the year before. Egypt exports much of its own long-staple cotton and imports cheaper short-staple cotton to meet domestic demand. It buys cotton

only from the United States. Cotton was once the country's most lucrative export crop, introduced at the end of the last century to try to bring in much-needed

foreign currency. Exported to the textile mills in Britain, cotton production changed Egypt from a subsistence economy to an export-orientated economy. But its fortunes have steadily dwindled following land reforms introduced by former president Gamal Abdel-Nasser, Many farmers no longer want to grow cotton, which exhausts the soil and earns them

less than other crops. Cotton exports are expected to earn Egypt about \$200 million this season, Shouman said, a tiny amount compared to the billions brought in by the country's main foreign exchange earners nowadays tourism, oil, the Suez Canal, and money sent home by expatriate workers

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Ari Fab	-			Guj Heavy	18	17	16.75
Ashok Ley	100	99.50		Hero Honda	19	19.50	20
Asia Paint	248.75	248.75	250	Hind Ciba	1490	1500	1480
Atlas Cop	745	43	43	Hind Lever	116	115.50	114
Auto Corp	60			Hind Cocoa	166.25	164	162.50
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Dunlop	72	68	70	Tisco	114	116.50	117.50
El Hotels	64	63	65	Vam Org	165		162.50
Escorts	87.75	87	86	Vareli -	23.75	22.50	23.75
BSE Index	782.48		780.34	Voltas	750	750	780
Eskayef	163,75	162.50	160	Wimco	29.50	29.25	28.75
Essar Spg	34	33.75		Zenith	61	60	61
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ANNOUNCEMENT

For Subscription in Issue No. (85) for Treasury Bills Authorised by Decree Law No. (50) of 1987

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinars for SUBSCRIPTION, distributed over the following denominations:

KD50,000, KD250,000, KD500,000

1 Descr	iption	Issue No.(87)	Issue No. (88)
Amount of Issue;		KD75 million	KD25 million
issue Date: Due Date Offering Period: Allotment:	Wednesday Wednesday From : Saturday To : Tuesday Wednesday	17/1/1990 18/4/1990 13/1/1990 16/1/1990 17/1/1990	17/1/1990 18/7/1990 13/1/1990 16/1/1990 17/1/1990

- 2. Delivery of Bills: After one week following the date of submitting the application.
- 3. The Provisions of these Issues shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al Youm) No. 1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.

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Indian School's Parent's Day

The Senior Indian School celebrated their Annual Parent's Day on Wednesday at the Indian Arts Circle. The function included a variety programme carried out by the senior students, as well as prize giving to the

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MORNING PERIOD. 9.30 The Opening and Holy

Ouran 9.40 Sabah Al Kher News

9.50 Cartoon serial 10.15 Magazine D'Actualite

(repetition) 10,30 Toyour Billa Ajneha: Arabic serial (part 9) 11.25 Sabah Al Kher News

11.30 Wada' Zaman Al

Samat: Arabic weekly serial (part 2) 12.25 News Summary 12.30 Sabah Al Kher News 12.35 Holy Quran and

Closedown EVENING PERIOD 4.00 The Opening and Holy

4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition) 4.45 Bereen: Cartoon serial 5.15 The Young Artist: Local children's programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al

Sheikh. 5.45 Night Chemists airlines and official

Mohammed

advertisements 6.00 Imam Mohammed Abdoh: Historical serial (part 13)

7.00 Varieties 7.15 Noor Al Islam: Religious programme, prepared and presen-ted by Ahmad Abdul

7.45 Cultural programme 8.00 Security and Citizens: Local programme

8.30 Good Evening and local news 9.00 News in Arabic 9.45 Ghadan Tushreqo Al

Shams: Arabic serial (part 11) 10.45 Thaib Al Nashama: Beduin weekly serial (part 2), starring Ghanem Al Saleh, Ali Al Mofeedi, Abeer Issa and Roubi Al Safadi

11.45 News Summary 11.50 The World Today via Satellite

12.05 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV2

6.00 Opening cement & Holy Quran 6.10 Adventures of Raggedy and Andy: A car-

toon series for chil-

6.30 Orphans of The Wild "Hyena": A look at specialised centre for providing information about all kinds of animal life to univer-

sities and institutes. 7.00 The Ultimate Machine: Mind and senses help man to understand

7.30 The Hogan Family You've Got To Believe": Mr Baker, the history professor has a heart attack where David helps saving him ... This accident helped David to regain faith in himself and renewed his self-confidence. News in English

8.30 Quantum Leap: "The Right Hand of God": 'Frankie' pretends that he is the well known boxer 'Koodie and gains an important match by the help of 'Al' the invisible man. Will be continue playing boxing mat-

ches. 9.30 The Great Iron Wall: A look at the battles waged by the peoples army against the Japanese invasion. Victories achieved by Mao. The Chinese military intervention in Korea. Mao's tea-

chings. 10.30 Late Night Film: "Nightmare At Bitter-Creek": Three women and a young girl attempt to find one of their husbands with the help of a guide named Ding. But they face difficulties and unexpected trouble from a gang of four

12.00 News in English 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite





Adabi Digest launched

The Urdu monthly, Adabi Digest, was launched at a ceremony held at the Meridien Hotel on Thursday. The monthly will be issued from Lahore, Pakistan. The launch was followed by an Urdu mushaira in which a large number of poets from India and Pakistan took part. Pictures shows: top (left to right) Hamid Siddiqui, Azmat Sheikh, Tahir Pervez, Editor Adabi Digest and Haroon Saeed. Bottom: some of the audience.

forum of Keralites has decided to conduct a one day short story camp on March 2nd 1990.

The camp will begin at 9 am with two essays on various aspects of short stories — "Malayalam Short story in my view point" and "Problems associated with writing (and confronted by writers)." There will be a discussion based on these essays. Later in the afternoon,

writers will present their short stories followed by a review of the works and a discussion. Those who are interested to present stories should send them to convenor Silpasala, P.O. Box 909, 13030 Safat,

February 15, 1990. The selected works presented at the camp will be included in a collection of short stories to be published

PHILIP MORRIS is pleased to

announce the inauguration of

The Philip Morris Scholarships

which will be awarded to strudents of the American University in Cairo (AUC).
Philip Morris, the world's lar-

erst consumer packaged goods

company, will fund two scholar-

ships worth \$2,500 each year to enable deserving students to pur-

tue their education. The scholar-

tips will be awarded to students

majoring in Arabic/Middle East

studies and will be based on the

students' financial need. The

recipients will be known as the

Philip Morris Scholars. The first

scholarships will be awarded for

The American University in

Cairo was established in 1919 to

provide a high quality. English Tanguage education for Egyptian

youth. Today, the student body 75 per cent Egyptian, with 25

her cent coming from other Mid-alle Eastern countries, Africa, afurope and the United States. In

addition to providing a additional liberal arts college

ducation, the university offers

the most extensive adult educa-

ation programme in the Middle

national recognised research

East and is home to two inter-

The American University in

Cairo welcomes this commit-

Thent by Philip Morris to support

ducational opportunities in

gypt. The company joins a pres-

The academic year 1989-1990.

by the forum shortly.

Kuwait, so as to reach before

Photography and Oil painting classes
OIL painting classes begin-

ning 15 January.
Photography classes beginning 16 and 17 January. 8 week course, once a week 4:30 to 7:30 pm, For further details please call Ann Eid Tel. 2426135 or Yasmeen 5326833.

Hobby centre
A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making — For more details call:- Tele-phone: 5618847 or 5317354.

Tribal Rugs & Oriental Prints THE Sultan Gallery will be holding a Tribal Rugs and Oriental Prints exhibition starting Saturday Dec 23 until Jan 15. On Saturday, the Gallery will be open from 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Else, it will be open

Philip Morris sponsorship

tigious list of private corpora-tions and individuals who have

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with headquarters in New York, manufactures tobacco, food and

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the international brand segment

of the Egyptian cigarette market.

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of scholarships at AUC

from 9.30 am to 12.30 noon and information contact: 2421951.

SOCIAL

Ramada Al Salam

GRAND Indian Food Festival from January 21-26. Display stalls open to Indian companies and individuals. Coniact Clifton or Siddiq on

> on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration maybe made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

has five principal operating com-panies: Philip Morris Incor-porated (Philip Morris USA), Philip Morris International Inc.,

Kraft General Foods, Miller Brewing Company, and Philip

Kraft General Foods has

Morris Credit Corporation.

THE seminar at the DAA

Il Annual one act Play Com-

INDIAN Arts Circle announces the II Annual One Play Competition to be held during Eid holidays in April, 1990. The competition is open to Plays in any Indian language including English. Awards shall include Best Play (1st, 2nd & 3rd). Best Director, Best Actor & Actress, Best Child Actor, Best Stage Setting and Best Acting Performance from each team. Registration form with rules & regulations are available from Indian Arts Circie office at Funaitees. Last date of submitting registration form with required details is 28th February, 1990.

Please contact IAC office (Tel: 3904817) for further details. All Indian associations engaged in theatrical activities are requested to join.

The Carnival Nite "THE

Entertainers" proudly announces for the first time in Kuwait 'The Carnival Nite' which is scheduled to be held at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel's Le Mirage main bailroom on 22nd February 1990. Besure to be there with all your glit and glamorous cos-tumes to witness this traditional event. Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers will rhythm out their best musical performance for this occasion.

Tivim Centre "TIVIM Centire is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-

seven operating units: General Foods USA, Kraft USA, Kraft side Inter Village Football General Foods International, Tournament which will be held Kraft General Foods Canada. on the Sour grounds, Kuwait Oscar Mayer Foods, Kraft Gen-City, beginning March 27/28th eral Foods Frozen Products, and 1990. For further information Kraft General Foods Commerplease contact organisers — 2441860 Casmiro."

Kuwait Little Theatre Kuwait Little Theatre,

Ahmadi, are holding auditions for a comedy to be staged in the theatre in early March and directed by Dave Dorrington. The auditions will be held in the Theatre on 21 and 22 January at 8 pm. All those interested in auditioning are welcome. Those interested in helping backstage are also welcome to attend.

Saaz Aur Aewaz

FEB 2: Saaz Aur Aawaz, one of the leading Indian musical groups of Kuwait present their fourth musical programme entitled Bhule Bisre Geet. The show includes Hindi film songs at the Indian Arts Circle, Funaitees on February 2, 1990. Passes will be available shortly.

Konkani Drama

Association is pleased to announce Menino De Bandar's 'Sounsarant Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaitees) on the 16th of February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menino de Bandar. Folk Songs A CULTURAL show on

popular folk songs and dances of Bangladesh organised by Nirjahar cultural group will be presented at auditorium of Sharq Co-operative on 19th January at 6 pm. K.M. Shehabuddin, the

Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Kuwait, has kindly consented to grace the occasion as the chief guest.

For details please contact: Mahe Alam 4315692 Salam 4330416, Jainal 2420711, 2409987, Mannan 4317223.

British Council THE Scarlet and the Black

- 137 min. Saturday, 13 Jan and Sunday, 14 Jan at 6.30 pm. This is the remarkable story of an Irish priest, Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty who founded an organisation to help escaping Allied prisoners of war. Features a brilliant cast: Gregory Peck, Christopher Plummer and John Gielgud. Admission is free but please telephone to reserve seats: 2515512, 2533204, 2533227.

Study the Humanities and Social Sciences in Britain. For more information on degreelevel studies of these subjects, please visit The British Council Education Office on Monday and Tuesday, 15 and 16 January, 9.00 am to 12.30 pm and 5.00 to 8.00 pm.

Ballet

STEPS Ballet School commences its new term. Jan 1990 registration is now open Sat-Wed in the Kuwait English School, Salwa from 3-7 pm. Cail 5386481 between 9-12 noon for more information. (For girls only 4-15 years).

Contact

THE next meeting of Contact, the ladies information group, will be held on January 13 at 10 am at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Their chef will be giving a demonstration. Newcomers welcome. For further information call 5388105 or

Like a Hurricane!i SEVENTH Sky's up

Rock concert at Al Andalus cinema on 15th & 16th February, 1990. We are looking for voluntary helpers and also an additional male & female vocalist. Ring 5748476 or 2543219.

Caledonian Society The Annual Burns Night

Supper will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel on Thursday, February Ist. For further information and ticket reservation phone: 5335082, 5332235 or 3727691 ext. 253.

Kaipak's Drama Competition KERALA Arts and Literature Promotion Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) is conducting a Malayalam One Act Play Competition at Indian

Arts Circle on 9th February

SPORTS

Daniella Dart Tournament 1990

The Dart Tournament for Danes will take place at the Gazelle Club on Friday, Jan 26, starting at 2pm (expected to finish at 8 pm). It is a family

event featuring separate junior tournament, so don't leave the

call Henrik Licht - 3727688 ext 246; or Bjarne Rasmussen - 3720137 before Saturday, children at home. For further details and registration, please Jan 20.

 All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus Arabic film Al Hamra

Al Salmiyah Arabic film Arabic film Drive-In

Revenge of the Nerds Al Firdous Malamaal Fahabeel Inkulabante Puthri

Al Jahra 7 Red Berets Granada

License to Kill

PRAYERS

Sulaibikhat

Arabic film

Lalame Ricayil

Ahmadi Drive-lu Iron Angels II

Jleeb

Maghreb

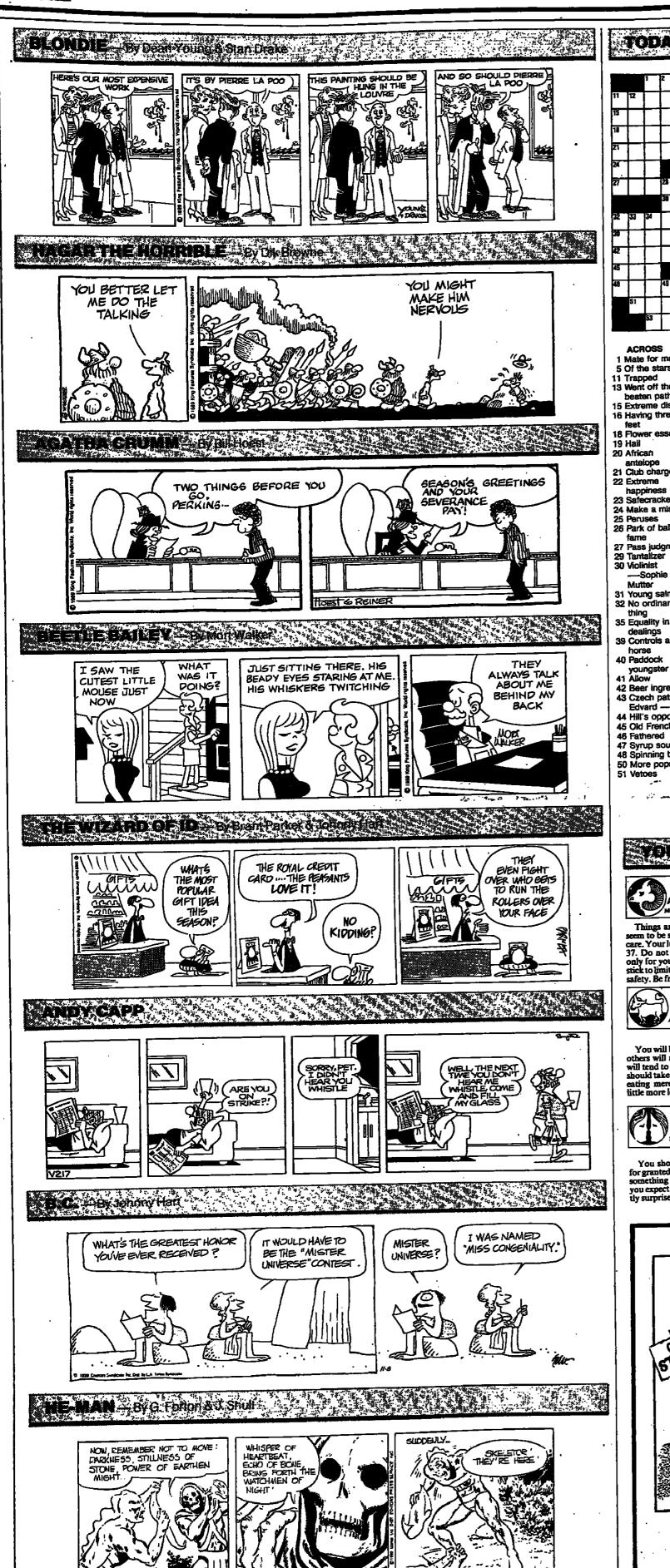
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Eighth Medical Conference

Kuwait Medical Association held a party in honour of organising committees for the Eighth Medical Conference which was held recently in Kuwait at Kuwait International Hotel. Dr Bader Hamada praised efforts extended by the communities for organising the conference.

A number of participants received certificates at the end of the party which was attended by a large gathering of members and newsmen



23 Pine for

25 Leases 26 Playful

28 Spot 29 Coin toss

choice

31 Lost color

33 Church official

34 Waters down

maneuvering

"bear", e.g.

32 Abalone

35 Adroit

36 Passed.

as time

37 Wall Street

38 Takes the

40 Search out

44 Trip the light

fantastic

43 Flora and

fauna

heim

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

ACROSS 52 Derby 1 Mate for mama competitors 5 Of the stars 53 Capitol body 11 Trapped

DOWN

need

5 On horseback

13 Went off the beaten path 15 Extreme disi 16 Having three 2 Tapestry 3 One's equal 18 Flower essence 4 Total up

20 African 6 Emphasize antelope 7 Attempts 21 Club charges 8 Overcome with 22 Extreme happiness 23 Safecracker 9 Certain vote 10 Bookkeeper's

24 Make a mistake iournals 25 Peruses 26 Park of balle coverings fame 12 Mother -27 Pass judgment 14 Hang loosely 29 Tantailzer 17 Gun make

-Sophie Mutter 31 Young salmon 32 No ordinary thing

39 Controls a 40 Paddock youngster 41 Allow 42 Beer ingredient

dealings

43 Czech patriot Edvard ---44 Hill's opposite 45 Old French coin 46 Fathered 47 Syrup source 48 Spinning blades

50 More populated 51 Vetoes

46 Ollie's buddy 19 - Bay, Nova 47 Repast Scotia 49 Long time 50 AMA members 22 Musician Goodman ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF HOW THE MIGHTY CAN FALL

Neither vulnerable. East deals. NORTH 4 9862 . ♡ Q 8 ♦ K 7 A QJ62 EAST WEST ♠ KQJ5 **103** φ 9 5 ♥ 10 7 4 3 **♦9653 ♣** 753 **★ K** 10 9 SOUTH **★ A74**

The bidding: West North East South Pass Pass 2 ♡ 1 🛊 3 🏚 Pass Rdbl DЫ Pass 37 Pass | Pass Pass P255 Opening lead: Ten of 🛊

VAKJ62

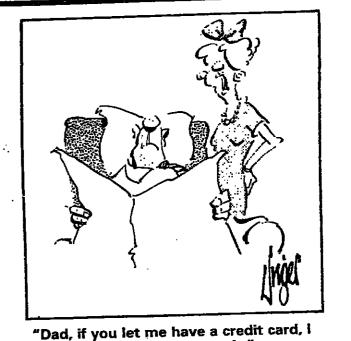
The difference between ordinary and great players is that run-ofthe-mill players make mistakes. while experts create catastrophes! Consider this hand from the 1989 European Team Championships. In one room, the Swedes played

tricks by the simple expedient of taking two finesses in clubs. In the other room, the Buigarians reached four hearts. It might seem that the same 11 tricks were there by adopting the same approach (baby play, some might say), but declarer managed to foul up his timing. The result was quite remarkable.

Declarer won the opening spade lead in hand and drew trumps in four rounds. Now, South took a winning club finesse, but he found himself stuck in dummy-he had no way back to his hand to repeat the

finesse. The best declarer could do was to eash the ace of clubs, ruff a club and exit with a spade. That permitted East to score three spade tricks and the ace of diamonds for down one! In some respects, declarer could

be congratulated on going down only one. Had he not endplayed East with a spade but tried to reach the table with a diamond, he would have suffered a two-trick defeat. However, that was little consolation to his teammates, who found they had lost 11 International Match Points on a hand they had estimated in three no trump and made 11 as a tie.



swear I'll never use it."

YOUR STARS



Things are not as good as they seem to be so exercise a little more care. Your lucky numbers are 4 and 37. Do not think others are there only for your sake. Make sure you stick to limits whether of speed or of safety. Be frugal.



You will be in a better mood and others will react accordingly. You will tend to be a little lethargic and should take remedial action. Avoid eating merely out of habit. Be a little more lenient.



You should not take too much for granted. Nor should you expect something for nothing. Indeed if you expect less you will be pleasantly surprised. Be fair.



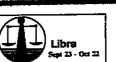
You will have something to be really pleased about. However, you must not be too disappointed if something you had boped for does not happen.



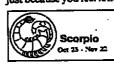
You should try to become a little more aware of what is going on around you. Once you have made up your mind stick to it, unless you really are on the wrong track. And do listen to and take good advice. Be less resentful.



If you are thinking of legal action you must take into account the possibility that you might lose your case. You still have a lot to learn and should be willing to do so. Live in the present and do not dwell on the past. Be courteous.



You should not think you are too old but then nor should you try to behave as if you were ten years younger than you are. You will be able to satisfy one of your ambi-tions. Do not do anything foolish just because you feel lonely.



You will be able to listen and appreciate good music. Make sure a friend is not left in the dark about your gratitude. You would do well to have a good laugh at yourself rather than being too serious. Be



Not everything is quite as you would wish it to be but do not be too aggrieved. Do not keep others waiting to hear from you. Make sure you do not neglect a cold or other kind of infection. Be frugal.



You should keep your eyes and ears open. And do not think others are as fond of the sound of your voice as you are. You should do all you can to make your home secure. there are burglars about. Be respec-



Try not to get into a muddle and do try to keep things more tidy. Do not spend too much time chatting on the phone when the other person is paying. Think twice and more about the consequences of your actions. Be tolerant. LO

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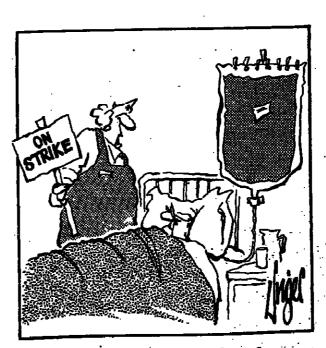
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You are short of space and should try to use it to good effect. Do not hesitate to discard what you no longer need, but avoid adding to pollution. Show a little more good-will towards others. Be amenable.



"You've got enough in there for two weeks."



"Today's special is spaghetti with alphabet letters in the sauce."

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(AT6-51029-3) SALMIYA Single room with water, electricity and tele facilities for an elderly bachelor to share with a Muslim family. Tele

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from 18:30 to 20:30 Francis Almeida Tel 3726185

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(AT6-51037-2) SUBARU 1981 model. Manual, registered upto Nov 1990, in good condition. KD450 onc. Tele 5623821 before 9.30 pm.

(AT6-51035-3) AUDI, Quattro 1984, manual gear, 1 door, bronze beige, 82,000 kms, 5 cylinder turbo, 5 speeds, in excellent condition. KD4,600. Tele. Mr Riyad, 5745667-8 Mr Khalid 2530595.

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2 BEDROOM flat for sale in Kuwait City. Also furniture and electrical items. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele 2419327 after 1 pm.

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(AT1-51072-3) NEW YORK, America, safe area. Sale detached freehold, eleven room house, garage backyard, front garden, near shopping centre, garden, bus stops, schools, university, four hospitals, subway to Manhattan. Tele 2437322.

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(AT1-51054-2)

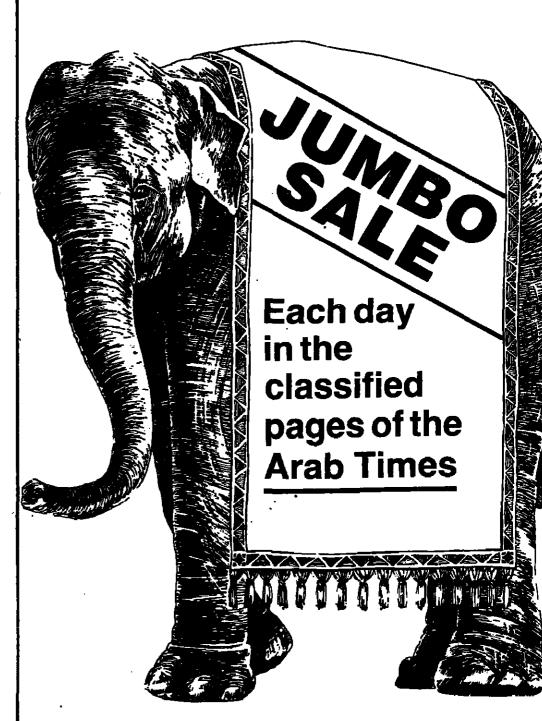
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family with 2 children to live-in in Sabah Al Salem. Must speak English. Visa will be arranged. Tele. Mrs Kusum, 5518976. (AT5-51017-3)

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(AT5-51020-3) MAID required, Indian, for a small

family, full-time in Juleeb Al Shiyookh. Must be experienced, preferably English-speaking (Tamil) and have transferable visa. Salary KD50. Tele. Madhukar, 4314930, after 2 pm. (AT5-51034-3)



ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

Robson to miss another match

Derby crash out to Port Vale

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): England goalkeeper Peter Shilton's longstanding ambition to win an English FA Cup winners' medal was put on ice for another season on Wednesday when Derby were bundled out of the competition at home by Port

The Second Division side never looked back after going ahead in the 48th minute through a Rob Hindmarch own goal and went on to win the third round replay 3-2.

Derby hauled themselves level through Craig Ramage, but goals by Ray Walker and Nicky Cross effectively put the match beyond Derby's reach. Sub-stitute Kevin Francis was the home side's other marksman.

Derby were the only one of seven First Division sides involved in replays on Wednes-day to fall by the wayside, through Everton, last year's beaten finalists, were held to a 1-1 draw after extra time at home to Second Division Middlesbrough.

Full back Gary Parkinson celebrated his 22nd birthday by equalising for Middlesbrough after 75 mintues. Kevin Sheedy had given the First Division side the lead in the 37th minute.

Kerry Dixon scored twice for Chelsea in their 2-0 win at Crewe

Bond and

Cup fray

Turner join

NEW YORK, Jan 12, (Reuter): Media magnate Ted Turner, Australian financier Alan Bond and six

other former America's Cupskippers

have joined the legal fray over yachting's most prestigious trophy by thr-

owing their support to New Zealand.
In court papers filed late on Tuesday, they backed New Zealand's

Mercury Bay Boating Club in its fight against a court decision award-

ing the trophy to the San Diego

Also included in the filing was Emil (Gus) Mosbacher Jr. White House chief protocol director under

Richard Nixon and a brother of Commerce Secretary Robert Mos-

They joined a group of other skip-pers and yachting clubs in asking New York state's highest court to

overturn a lower appeals court ruling that allowed the San Diego Yacht Club to retain the 1988 America's

Cup.
In their petition, the Group said that if the ruling was allowed to stand it would "reduce the American's Cup

to a piece of memorabilia and spell an

end to a legendary competition that

has endured for well over a century.

Oral arguments before the New
York State Court of Appeals in
Albany are scheduled for February 8

and a decision is expected by the end of March. The New York courts oversee the "Deed of gift," that set out the rules for the America's Cup.

when San Diego won the Cup from Australia but broke with precedent by failing to set the terms for the next challenge before leaving for home.

The legal battle began in 1987

New Zealander Michael Fay

challenged San Diego to a race in 1988 in a 132-foot (40.2-metre) sloop

far larger than the traditional 12-

metre yachts. San Diego refused, Fay

took the issue to court and New York

justice Carmen Ciparick ordered

both sides to race first and seek court

ction later.
San Diego defended the Cup with a 60-foot (18.3-metre) catamaran,

which is inherently faster than a

sloop, and Dennis Conner easily won

2-0 in the best-of-three series. Fay asked the court to disqualify San

Diego for sailing a catamaran and

Ciparick agreed, awarding the Cup

However, an appellate panel over-

turned the verdict, ruling that the

deed of gift imposed no such design

constraints on the defender. Fay then

took the issue to the New York Court

of Appeals, which will have a final

sny in the case. Turner skippered Mariner in the 1974 defenders' trials, losing to even-

tual winner Courageous. The then

bought the boat and used it in the

successful 1977 defence against

to New Zealand.

Yacht Club.

to spare his club any further embarrassment against the Third Division side who came close to beating the Londoners

on Saturday.

Another London side, Queen's Rangers, also made no mistake against Third Division opposition. They beat Cardiff 2-0 to line up a glamorous tie agaisnt League champions Arsenal.

The goals came from two of Rangers' latest recruits, former England midfielder Ray Wilkins and Roy Wegerle. Norwich earned themselves a

home time against Cup holders Liverpool, who blitzed Swansea 8-0 in a replay on Tuesday, by beating Fourth Division Exeter 2-0 at home.

Robert Rosario game them the lead in the sixth mintue but it was not until 14 mintues from the end that Norwich sealed a place in the fourth round with Dale Gordon's spectacular diving

header.
Former Athletic Bilbao manager Howard Kendall aims to boost the rehabilitation of his new club Manchester city by smashing a four-year jinx in the English Soccer League tomorrow.

For City, hinting at a revival since Kendall become their manager last month after being

sacked by the Spanish side, have not won in their last 46 away League and cup games against First Division opposition.

Their last success was in January 1986 when they won 2-0 at Tottenham — the London club which is the venue for city's Division One clash at the weekened.

Kendall's city continue their battle to climb from 18th in the 20-team division on a day when leaders Liverpool and second-placed Aston Villa have an exceleint opportunity to consolidate.

Liverpool are at home to 19thplaced Luton while Villa — two points behind the leaders with a game in hand — travel to bottom dub Charlton.

City's wretched away sequence would have come to an end in their midweek FA Cup replay at Millwall had striker Clive Allen converted a close range chance in the final seconds of regular time. The match ended

Allen joined City from French First Division Bordeaux only last summer but his future with the Manchester club may be in doubt as Kendall reshapes his team.

Wayne Clarke, the former Everton Striker, has joined City and Kendall is also reported to have inquired about two other

Heath and Tottenham's Paul Stewart, whom City sold to Tottenham 18 months ago. Meanwhile, Kendall has at

least stiffened his side's defence by signing Alan Harper, the ex-Everton defender, and playing him as a sweeper. This has stemmed the flow of goals against, with only three conceded in his first six games compared with 20 in the previous seven.

Apart from preserving their FA Cup interest it has also helped lift City off the foot of the First Division. A win at Tottenham should take them out of the relegation zone for the first time since early October.

Spurs, lifth, need a lift after two successive home defeats, including a 3-2 setback at the hands of Southampton that put

them out of the cup last weekend.
Tottenham skipper Gary Mabbutt suggested Southampton had a greater will to win, a factor that his team's manager Terry Venables must have been striving to put right during this week's preparations.

Manchester's other bele-. aguered club — 15th-placed United - will be without their England captain Bryan Robson because of a groin injury for a fifth successive match, against Derby at Old Trafford.

side's manager Alex Ferguson found some respite with their FA Cup victory at Nottingham Forest last Sunday, he will be aware that First Division points are more crucial to ease the pressure significantly.

■ English Soccer League champions Arsenal, who swiftly punished players involved in a postmatch incident on December 30, have escaped a Football Associa-tion (FA) disrepute charge over the affair.

No further action will be taken against Arsenal, whose captain Tony Adams and physiotherapist Gary Lewin were praised by FA chief executive Graham Kelly for acting as peacemakers during the incident at Aston

Kelly said yesterday: "We welcome the swift internal disciplinary action taken by the club against their players, and it is clear that the intervention of Adams and Lewin was helpful in defusing the situation."

Four Arsenal players received hefty club fines after protesting to referee Jim Ashworth that Villa's winning goal in the First Division game was offside.

Arsenal were fined £20,000 (\$31,000) by the FA after a mass brawl at the end of their home League match against Norwich last November.

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Robson; out again through injury

West and East Germany to play friendly

ior and women's sides.

that negotiate transfers.

each other's trainer diplomas.

officials said Wednesday.

Dresden on March 26.

ferent selections, including the under-21, jun-

Future transfers of East German non-

amateur players to West German clubs will be governed by International Soccer Federation (Fifa) rules and the two sides agreed to avoid

services of middlemen and similar agencies

The agreement also provides for a tour-

nament between East and West German

League and Cup champions starting in 1991.

programmes that will allow them to recognise

■ Juergen Sparwasser, who became an East

German sports hero after scoring the winning

goal against West Germany in a World Cup

soccer match but later earned scorn for defect-

ing, will go home to play a charity match,

Sparwasser was named Wednesday to a

joint German team of 1974 World Cup

veterans that will meet a world selection in

The two sides will exchange training school

Draw

Revised draw for the Fourth Round of the English Football Association (FA) Cup after Wednesday's third round replays; Briston City v Chelses; Norwich v Liverpool; Rochdale v Noarthampton; Aston Villa v Port Vale; Reading v New-Castle; Southampton v Oxford; Bransley v/pswich; Hereford v Manchester United; Barkrool v Torquay: Sheffield Wednes-Piackpool v Torquay; Sheffield Wednes-day v Middlesbrough or Everton; Shef-field United v Watford; Manchester City or Millwall v Cambridge United; Oldham v Brighton; Crystal Palace v Huddeshield; Arsenal v Queen's Park Rangers; West Bromwich v Charlton.

Maiches to be played on weekend of

The world selection will include former World Cup stars Jairzinho and Carlos Alberto of Brazil, Paolo Rossi and Claudio

Gentile of Italy, Kevin Keegan of England, Hans Krankl of Austria and Bum Kun Cha of

Marcel Raducanu, a former Romanian

international who had a distinguished career

after defecting to West Germany, also has

been invited to play for the world selection,

organisers told a news conference in West

gave East Germany a 1-0 victory over West

Germany in an early round at the 1974 World

Cup in West Germany. West Germany went

on to win the World Cup desptie the defeat.

After defecting to West Germany in 1988.

Sparwasser was denounced as a traitor by

East Germans officials. He is now a coach

with Eintracht Frankfurt, a leading West German First Division Club, where he is in

The Dressden game will mark the first time

in the postwar years that a joint German team

Sparwasser scored the historic goal that



Valdano (left) fights for the ball with Emmanuel Petil (right) and Roger Mendy of Monaco. (Reute

Monaco defeat Argentina

MONACO, Jan 12, (Reuter): Argentine Ramon Diaz, almost certain to be left out of his country's team for the World Cup soccer finals, took some team for the World Cup soccer finals, took so the World Cup soccer fina revenge on Wednesday, leading French club side Monaco to a 2-0 victory over Argentina in a frien-

Against a team playing without many key players including Diego Maradona, Diaz seized the chance

Diaz was instrumental in both Monaco goals, the first scored by French international Jose Toure in the 24th minute, the second by Ivory Coast's Yous-souf Fofana in the 55th. Both scorers had come on as

The World Cup holders, looking tense for this first in a series of three friendlies in a week, had to be content with one dangerous shot from striker Jorge Valdano which hit the bar at the end of the first half. The 33-year-old striker, who resumed playing this

season after a two-year break, was the only Argentine success in a game dominated by Monaco. In a further friendlies Argentina face Guatemala on Sunday and Mexico in Los Angeles next Wednes-

Monaco: Jean-Luc Ettori Claude Puel, Luc 🔞 Sonor, Remy Vogel, Joel Mendy Fabrice Poullain, Jean-Marc Ferratge, Marcel Dib Mark Hateley, Fabrice Mege, Ramon Diaz. Substitutes: Patrick Valery, Emmanuel Petit, Eric

Guerit, Dominique Bijotat, Jose Toure, Youssouf

Argentina: Julio Cesar Falcioni Pedro Monazon. Julio Olarticoechea, Jose Luis Brown, Ricardo Giusti, Sergio Batista, Jose Basualdo, Jorge Burru-chaga, Jorge Valdano, Nestor Gorosito, Carlos

Substitutes: Giocoachea, Nestor Fabbri, Chamot, Diego Simeone, Gabriel Calderon, Aires.

Brazil and Argentina triumph

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Jan 12, (AP) Brazil routed the Netherlands 4-1 and Argentina outgunned Poland 5-2 Wednesday in the opening round of the Masters Cup tour-

nament of former soccer greats held in South America's largest city. Some 6,500 fans braved heavy rains at caninde stadium in Sao Paulo to watch the Brazilian and Dutch

to watch the Brazilian and Dutch stars show glimpses of their former glory with graceful passing and artistic offense play.

The quicker, better-fit Brazilian team missed a number of early scoring chances. The best came in the 10th minute when striker Zico, formerly of Rio's famed Flamengo squad, was robbed by goalie Shrijvers after sending a blast from inside the penalty area earmarked for inside the penalty area carmarked for

Brazil scored first when striker Eder took a pass at the top of the penalty and drilled a bullet inside the post in the 41st minute to make it 1-0 before halftime.

The Netherlands seniors, without stars Neeskeens, Resembrink, Krol and Cruyff that formed the famous World Cup squads of 1974 and 1978, picked up some momentum early in the second half when Brazil failed on

several chances.

In the 67th minute, striker Boeve headed a soft, arcing shot that floated over confused goalie Paulo Vitor and dropped into the corner of the net to tie the score, 1-1.

But Brazil struck back less than a half-minute later when replacement Claudio Adao took a pass from Zenon while cutting in on net and beat Shrijvers to put the home team back on top, 2-1.

Brazil padded its lead in the 84th

minute when Adao slipped past a defender in the penalty box, took pass from Zico on his right foot and sliced a shot just inside the post to



Butragueno scores twice

MADRID, Jan 12, (Reuter): Emilio Butragueno scored twice as :: holders Real Madrid cruised to a 3-0 first leg victory over Valladolid in :: the Spanish Cup quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Valladolid, beaten 1-0 by Real in last year's final, were always second best in a lacklustre affair. Butragueno opened the scoring after three minutes. But Real had to

wait until a mintue before halftime for their second, Argentine Oscar : Ruggieri beading home a corner from Vazquez. Vazquez set up Butragueno for Real's third two minutes from the

In the Wednesday's other quarterfinal, Cadiz, reduced to 10 men ater defender Angel Oliva was sent off for a second bookable offence in the 44th minute, managed to hold Gijon to a goalless draw thanks to several brilliant saves by Hungarian goalkeeper Joseph Szendrei.

oreman-Cooney may decide future of 'senior tour'

charge of the amateur side.

South Korea.

NEW YORK, Jan 12, (Reuter): The clash between ageing heavyweights George Foreman and Gerry Cooney on Monday is not expected to be a classic, but it will test the public's willingness to pay for more such trips down memory lane.

mer's World Cup in Italy.

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Jan 12, (AP): East and West Germany will meet for only the second time in history in an exhibition soccer match in August in Leipzig, officials of the two soccer federations

In the only game to date between the two

national team, East Germany upset West Germany 1-0 at the 1974 World Cup in West

The Aug 29, match in Leipzig, East Ger-

many, will be scrapped, however, if the two sides are drawn into the same qualifying group for the European Championships. The

draw is scheduled for Feb 2 in Stockholm. If

the two German teams are in same group,

they will have to play each other twice before

the end of 1991. If the August match game

goes ahead, it is expected to mark the debut of

Berti Vogts as West German national team

Vogts, a former international, is slated to succeed Franz Beckenbauer after this sum-

The officials meeting in Frankfurt also agreed on several other games between dif-

Germany went on to win the World Cup.

announced yesterday.

Boxing fans are being asked to pay \$50 to \$400 to see the past in person at the Atlantic City Convention Centre or \$19.95 to watch 41-year-old Foreman and Cooney, 33, at home on closedcircuit television.

If enough fans pay, it is a good bet they will get more of boxing's "senior tour," which in the past few years has provided encores for some of the sport's more notable former stars. In 1987 Sugar Ray Leonard

came out of retirement yet again to beat Marvellous Marvin Hagler in a huge financial suc-cess. That fight helped spawn fights between Larry Holmes and Mike Tyson, Thomas Hearns and Leonard and last months's lacklustre 12-round clash between Roberto Duran

and Leonard. Now there is Foreman, the former heavyweight champion, back after 10 years of preaching the Bible, and Cooney, back two and a half years after Michael Spinks battered him into

Although the Duran-Leonard affair, won by Leonard in a decision over a listless Duran, was financially successful for promoters, the generally bad reviews for the light suggest boxing's golden oldies may be tarni-

After the Leonard-Duran fight a lot of people asked "what will the public buy?" said one man involved with promoting Leonard-Duran and this fight. "It's coming to the point where (people ask) how many times can you come back to it...and it's close to that now. But he added: "This fight is an

attraction. There's a curiosity factor."

Promoter Bob Arum has said the bad reviews for the Leonard-Duran fight, which he also promoted, may hurt sales for Foreman-Cooney. But the relatively small purse of \$1 million for each man is not a large overhead to cover.

Also helping to counter the Leonard-Duran disappointment are rumours that the winner will get a chance for the ultimate payday - a heavyweight title light with Mike Tyson.

Foreman, six feet four inches (1,93 metres) tall and 250 pounds (113.4 kg), has carefully con-structed a 19-0 record since returning to the ring, mostly against opponents who were just warm bodies. Overall, Foreman is 64-2.

Cooney, who has battled alcohol and drugs in recent years, has



Foreman (left) and Cooney at a press conference.

not fought for money since the Spinks fight. Standing six feet seven inches

(2.01 metres) and weighing 235 pounds (106.6 kg), he had a fearsome left hook back in the days when he was coming up through

the heavyweight ranks. His most notable claim to fame was lasting 13 rounds with Larry Holmes in 1982 before los-

ing when the fight was stopped.

I have everything to lose here. Cooney, 28-2, has said.

"My life is on the line. I have to.

get things together and kick his

ass. I'm not here for the money,

I'm here to prove that George

Foreman doesn't belong in the

ring with me." But Cooney will have to be a lot better for his scheduled 10rounder against Foreman than he was in a sparring session last month in Las Vegas when a relatively inexperienced and smaller man gave him an embarrassing beating.

In his salad days, Foreman was one of boxing's most powerful punchers. But at his weight, Foreman may make a good target even for a plodding Cooney.
"I don't think George has anywhere near the physical skills he had before he retired," said Gil

Clancy. Cooney's trainer, who once worked Foreman's corner. "Everybody Foreman has fought has been a blown up cruiserweight. When Gerry gets in the ring, George is in for a surprise ... it's not going to go the distance. I'll tell you that."

Foreman, a 2-1 underdog, says he wants to keep his current weight in order to retain his strength.

"I want another dance." Foreman said referring to fighting for the title again. "I tried to leave boxing, but I couldn't sleep. He (Cooney) probably feels the same way.

It is likely one of them will have to leave boxing after Monday And if they do not put on a

good show a lot of other shopworn fighters dreaming of one more payday will have to keep on

Witherspoon stops Sims for 31st victory

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, " Jan 12. (AP): Tim Witherspoon, a two-time former heavyweight a two-time to the champion, knocked down Jeff Sims in the first round last night, then beat him up until the referee stepped in after five rounds to end the heavyweight fight.

It was the sixth straight victory for the 32-year-old Withers-Another 10-round heavy

weight bout matched Tyrell Biggs and Ozzie Ocasio, both of whom had unsuccessfully challenged for the heavyweight title. This one was won by biggs on a clear-cut decision. Enough

Witherspoon shook the 35year-old Sims with a right hand to the head shortly after the " opening bell, then put him down with a left hook and right upper-

Sims got through the round but was hurt on several occasions until referee Frank Cappuccino had seen enough and called a halt with Sims sitting on his stool after the fifth round

Witherspoon had a big round in the fourth, when he hurt Sims with two rights to the body, again with a right to the head, again with a left hook to the body and a fourth time with another right to

SPORTS

Chesnokov and Krishnan reach semifinals

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 12, (Reuter): Top seed Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union battled strong winds to beat Canadian Grant Connell in the quarter-finals of the \$150,000 New Zealand Open today.

The win takes Chesnokov through to the semifinals where he will meet Israeli

Amos Mansdorf.

The lefthander Connell won the first set 6-2 against Onesnokov with brilliant attacking tennis.

Connell chased every service and volley on to 3-1 in the second set with a break point for the game.

He said afterwards: "This was the crisis. I though I had the volley covered ... I muffed it. After that my confidence was affec-

"You can go in against Chesnokov's second service which, for a player of his class, is decidedly weak, but having got that game ... his confidence improved.

India beat Maggus Gustaffson of Sweden after the first set went to a tiebreaker. Gustaffson was easily outplayed in the second with the final score 7-6 (7-5) 6-2.

The win takes Krishnan to the semifinal against Scott Davis of the US.

No. 1 spot

SYDNEY, Jan 12, (Reuter): Boris Becker's pursuit of Ivan Lendi's world number one spot begins in earnest when the pair get together at the Australian Open, the first Grand Slam tournament of the 1990s, in Mel-

bourne on Monday. Becker, the Wimbledon and US Open champion, believes he has already done enough to over-take Lendi who will be 30 in March. But the rankings computer tells otherwise.

Before this week's New South Wales Open, Becker's Czechoslovak rival led by more than 600 ranking points, the equivalent of two major tournament victories.

Shock quarterfinal defeats for both in Sydney ensured the difference remained the same going into the Melbourne tournament which offers Becker a perfect chance to narrow the gap.

Becker, who played what he considers his best match ever against Mats Wilander in the Davis Cup final against Sweden last month, has been in superb form recently.

Advanced

But his Australian Open record is flawed. The 22-year-old has never advanced beyond the quarterfinals and was beaten by Swede Jonas Svensson in the last 16 last year.

Lendl, by comparison, showed his fitness places him above most other players by winning the event 12 months ago in furnace-like conditions at Flinders Park when the on-court temperature reached a roasting 61 degrees Centigrade.

Lendl opens his campaign against American doubles specialist Jim Pugh while Beeker takes on Dutchman Paul Haarhuis, who beat John McEnroe in the 1989 US open.

could see the tournament decided indoors.

If the temperature soars again, permission has been given for the sliding roof at the stadium to be closed to give players and spectators alike some relief.

That option will be considered only from the semifinals onwards, however, in the interests of fairness to those players toiling away on unprotected outside courts.

Both Lendl and Becker, of course, have the ability to turn up the heat on court regardless of the weather and it requires some imagination to look beyond the highly motivated pair contesting the final on January 28.

But the presence of 15 of the world's top 25 players ensures that neither of the top two seeds can take anything for granted and Stefan Edberg, in particular,

will prove a threat. Edberg, winner of the Australian Open in 1985 and 1987, is bound to be motivated by his luckless exit from last year's tournament.

A back injury dramatically sustained in the final game of his last 16 match against Pat Cash forced him to pull out of his scheduled quarter-final with Austria's Thomas Muster and watch the closing stages in frustration from the stands.

There is also the lingering. memory of his Wimbledon final defeat by Becker last July, not to mention his Davis Cup loss to the West German in last month's final.

Dangerous

McEnroe, Wilander, Cze-choslovak Miloslav Mecir and Frenchman Yannick Noah, who. beat Lendl in Sydney, remain dangerous opponents on their

The rumblings over the timing of the event — many players believe it comes too soon after the Christmas break - have been felt most keenly in the women's singles where world number one Steffi Graf will be an almost unbackable favourite.

Martina Navratilova and French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez are missing, leaving last year's beaten finalist Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia and Hrgentina's Gabriela Sabatini as the most awkward rivals to the superb West German.

Oilers' coach

HOUSTON, Jan 12, (AP): Jack Par-dee, who led Chicago and Washing-ton to the National Football League playoffs and rebuilt the University of Houston programme, returned to the pros yesterday as head coach of the Houston Oilers.

The same of the sa

prepares Lendl, Becker upset to grab

Noah, Steeb spring surprises



Yannick Noah

SYDNEY, Jan 12, (Reuter): Top seeds Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker crashed out of the New South Wales Open tennis tour-nament today as France's Yan-. mick Noah and West German Carl-Uwe Steeb took it in turns to register shock victories.

Noah, his reported retirement plans apparently farthest from his mind, was at his brilliant best as he brushed aside Lendl 6-1 6-4 after watching Steeb power to an equally impressive 7-6 6-3 win over his Davis Cup team mate

Noah, seeded eighth, will play American number three seed Aaron Krickstein in the semifinals tomorrow. Steeb's reward was a match against Sweden's Mats Wilander who recovered from a set down to beat qualifier Pete Sampras 6-77-56-0.

Noah's sparkling victory came the day after a French tennis magazine published an interview in which he said 1990 would be his final year on the circuit.

Serving powerfully, he gave Lendl few chances to find a way back into the match in front of an entranced crowd.

"I have been working hard these last three weeks and I was feeling good," said Noah, currently ranked 21 in the world. "I don't think he played as well as he usually plays but I really

enjoyed the moment.' Lendi played down his reverse. 'I'm not terribly concerned about it. He was very keen and today he deserved to win.' Becker's exit was equally rapid

from the moment Steeb clinched the first set tie-break 7-3. Looking both fitter and more



Becker drinks some ice water during a break. Right: Pat Cash (left) and his doubles partner Mark Kratzman smile after winning a point in their New South Wales Open match. They beat Paul Annacone and Christo van Rensburg 6-4 6-7 6-3. (Reuter wirephotos)

Senna will race this season

win the crown

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): Former world champion Ayrton Senna will race this season, his McLaren team manager Ron Dennis promised yes-

The controversial Brazilian's future is in doubt following a threat by the sport's governing body to deny him a licence to compete in this season's Grands Prix unless he withdraws allegations that last year's world championship was manipulated. But Dennis said: "I can assure you that he will be

"I spoke to him for about two hours last night. But we are not quite sure of the circumstances between now and then. I think the least said the

Jean-Marie Balestre, president of the International Motor Sports Federation (Fisa), said on

Wednesday that Senna would be barred from racing in 1990 unless he withdrew allegations that Fisa officials had favoured Frenchman Alain Prost to

Dispute

Senna, who lost his world title to his then McLaren team mate Prost after being disqualified in the Japanese Grand Prix in October, said through his Sao Paulo business office yesterday that he had not received any official communication from Fisa. A spokesman said he does not plan to commit on the

But earlier, Williams team boss Frank Williams slammed both Senna and Fisa for the dispute. When some people see a microphone they can't resist saying something controversial. It's all so unnecessary," Williams said.

composed in the hot conditions than the Wimbledon and US Open champion, Steeb kept his nerve to register Becker's first defeat by a West German.

"He played a very good match and I wasn't able to pull it back after losing the first set," said

"I would have liked to do well but now I have the chance to have three days' rest before the Australian Open.'

Steeb did not agree with suggestions that the defeat might adversely affect Becker's chances in Melbourne.

'Everyone knows Boris is tough in big events and I'm sure it won't affect him.'

In the women's singles, Austrians Barbara Paulus and Judith Wiesner will meet in tomorrow's semifinals after respective victories over Czechoslovak Radka Zrubakova and West German Claudia Porwik.

The other semifinal will be between Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union and American teenager Amy Frazier, who continued her no-nonsense progress through the draw by beating seventh seed Raffaella Reggi of Italy 6-3 7-5.

(Reuter wirephoto) Nashwan rated **Nets stop Hornets** second best

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): English Derby winner Nashwan, once spoken of as a potential racehorse of the century, has been officially rated only the second best in Europe in 1989. In the annual international

classifications, published yesterday. Nashwan is rated three pounds (1.3 kg) inferior to French and Irish Derby winner And in a list of Epsom Derby

winners rated since 1977, Nashwan (131) comes only ill pounds (4.1 kg) below the toprated Shergar (140). Nashwan, trained by Dick

Hern, became the first horse in the same season to win the English 2,000 Gineas, Derby, Eclipse Stakes and King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond

But he blotted his copy-book when only third in a warm-up race for the Prix del' Arc de Triomphe and never raced again.

British athletics LONDON, Jan 12.(UPI): The Daily

Telegraph newspaper is to put £500,000 (\$900,000) into British athletics in a three-year sponsorship programme, it was announced today. Sponsorship cash from the deal will be available to men's and women's athletics clubs and the United Kingdom Women's Athletic

llets beat Heat only team without a road victory Malone scored 22 of his seasonthis season.

Steeb raises his arms in jubilation after defeating Becker.

high 39 points in the third quarter as the Washington Bullets snapped a 13-game road losing streak with a 100-89 victory over Miamilast night, the Heat's 12th consecutive defeat.

Malone reached the 10,000point milestone for his sevenyear career with his eighth point

In the third period, Malone hit nine of 12 from the floor and four free throws without a miss. He scored Washington's final 13 points of the quarter, which ended with the Bullets ahead 82-

Miami got no closer than five the rest of the way as Washington won on the road for the first time since a 104-95 victory at Portland on Nov 12. The Bullets are now 4-13 on the road this season.

Rony Seikaly had 25 points and 17 rebounds for the Heat. Nets 109. Hornets 101

Purvis Short scored a seasonhigh 29 points as New Jersey won its third consecutive game and kept Charlotte winless on the road this season.

The Nets won three consecutive games for the first time since March 1-5, 1988, while the Hornets remained the NBA's

Roy Hinson had 19 points and 12 rebounds for New Jersey. Kelly Tripucka led Charlotte with 22 points, and Dell Curry added 21. Trail Blazers 82, Timber-

woives 80 Terry Porter's two free throws with 15 seconds left lifted Portland over Minnesota

Portland, which trails the Los Angeles Lakers by one game in the Pacific Division, survived 34.1 per cent shooting to win its sixth straight game as the Timberwolves, who have lost 15 of

Minnesota's Scott Roth missed a 20-footer at the buzzer, his 10th miss in 10 attempts.

17, shot even worse — 31.6 per

Clyde Drexler led Portland with 18 points and Tony Campbell had 26 for Minnesota, including a three-point play with 2:16 remaining that made it 80-80 — the seventh tie of the fourth quarter and 18th of the game.

Results

100 Miami 109 Charlotte 82 Minnesota 141 Orlando 98 Dallas 90 Houston New Jersey Portland Denver Seattle

SPORTS BRIEFS

Aitken transferred

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): Scottish soccer captain Roy Aitken was transferred from Scottish Premier Division Celtic to English Second Division Newcastle United on Wed-nesday for £500,000 (\$825,000).

Turner resigns

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): Chris Turner, manager of English Fourth Division Cambridge United, resig-ned on Wednesday only 12 hours after his team had earned a glamour Football Association Cup fourth round tie against Millwall or Man-chester City of the First Division.

Dutch club

AMSTERDAM, Jan 12, (Reuter): Dutch First Division club FC Den Haag have been ordered to play a league match behind closed doors after their fans hurled stones on to the pitch during a game last month.

Seven rookies

STOCKHOLM. Sweden, Jan 12, (AP): Olle Nordin, coach of Sweden's World Cup-bound soccer team, picked seven rookies Wednesday for his squad that will play two exhibitions in Saudi Arabia

Mariboro Cup

LOS ANGELES, Jan 12, (AP): Colombia will play the Soviet Union on Feb 20 in the Marlboro Cup of Los Angeles, which features three of the 24 teams that qualified for soc-cer's 1990 World Cup. Costa Rica, which qualified along with the United States in the North and Cen-tral American and Caribbean region, will play Chivas of Guadalajara. Mexico, in the second game of the

Cup build-up

LONDON, Jan 12. (Reuter): England will play Denmark at Wembley on May 15 as part of their build-up programme for this year's World Cup soccer finals in Italy.

Luton manager

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuter): Struggling English First Division soccer club Luton yesterday appointed Jim Ryan as manager after the departure of Terry Mancini, the club's caretaker manager. Doimatov ahead HASTINGS, England, Jan 12,

(Reuter): Soviet grandmaster Sergei Dolmatov held the lead in the Hast-

ings Premier Chess Tournament yesterday after drawing with Yugoslavia's Predrag Nikolic in a hard-fought 12th-round encounter. Mugabi triumphs

LONDON, Jan 12, (AP): John "The Beast" Mugabi of Uganda needed

less than one round — and just one solid right hook — to knock out Brazilian Carlos Antunes in a middleweight fight Wednesday night. Romanian defector

EDINBURGH, Jan 10. (Reuter):

Cristian Raducanu, who defected when Romania's national rugby international last month, has been authorities to play for a Scottish club.

TV rights

TOKYO, Jan 12, (AP): Japan signed a \$57.5 million contract yesterday for television and radio broadcast rights for the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, the Japan Broad-casting Corp (NHK) said.

Cycling team
EAST BERLIN, Jan 12, (AP): East
Germany's Cycling Federation,
whose five top stars have signed for
Western teams, is considering setting up its own professional team, a cycling official told an East Berlin newspaper yesterday.

Head coach

TUSCALOOSA, Alabama, Jan 12, (AP): Gene Stallings, who played and coached under Alabama legend Paul "Bear" Bryant, yesterday was named head coach of the Crimson Tide with a promise to "carry on the tradition.

Montana, Everett set for NFC title game

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 12, (AP): Even in the brightest season of a glorious 11-year NFL career, Joe Montana still remains

off centre stage.

After all, what does it say about the San Francisco 49ers quarterback when his coach is asked: "Is Jim Everett the Joe Montana of the '90s?" "He may be," 49ers coach George Seifert says. "He's a very

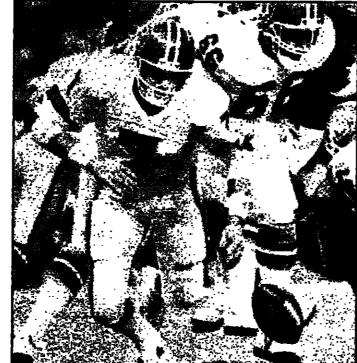
good quarterback. But right now we have Joe Montana. Think of Sunday's NFC championship game between the 49ers and the Los Angeles Rams as a quarterback showcase featuring Montana, called by many the best of all time, against Everett, who in the last 1 1-2 years has emerged as the prin-

cipal challenger. But, please, look at Montana as No. I, a three-time Super Bowl winner, two- time Super Bowl MVP; the NFL's "Player of the Decade," and this year's League MVP. In addition, his next playoff touchdown pass will tie Terry Bradshaw's NFL record at

Don't bet against it happening

Sunday. If you're leading by a touchdown or less and there's a minute left in the game, you don't want the ball in Montana's hands.

In the last year, Montana engineered a 92-yard drive to win the Super Bowl against Cincinnati with 34 seconds left; threw four touchdown passes in the final period after being sacked eight times to beat Philadelphia the third week of the season and produced a 20-point fourth



John Elway (No. 7): hasn't had an easy year

a 27-10 deficit into a 30-27 vic-And this from a guy who started the decade with the drive, culminated by the pass to Dwight Clark that beat Dallas 28-27 and

put the 49ers in their first Super

quarter against the Rams to turn

"Any superlative you can use to describe him fits," Seifert says.
"He's the best," Everett says. "Any comparison to him is a

Montana, though, is more prepared to talk about Everet... "Unfortunately," he says, "Jim's having a great year. Unfortunately, he can only get better."

Fortunately for the Rams, that seems to be true. Everett ranked third in the NFL in passing this year, behind the last two MVP's, Montana and Cincinnati's Boomer Esiason. He led the League in touchdown passes with 29 and had his most important last week — a 30-yard hookup to Flipper Anderson to beat the New York Giants in overtime and send the Rams to candlestick for Sunday's game. ■ Bernie Kosar, John Elway

and hard knocks. They just don't seem to go together. Until this year, when neither star quarterback had a particularly stellar For Kosar, the problems have been mostly internal — injuries curtailed his effectiveness and

turned him into an unpredictable

"It's been a strange year," Kosar admitted as he and the Clevaland Browns prepared for Sunday's AFC championship game against Elway and the Denver Broncos. "There have been a lot of ups and downs for me and the team."

Mainly, there have been elbow, shoulder and finger problems. The elbow was the worst and, in midseason, it was reported that it was a careerthreatening injury. That sent Browns coach Bud Carson rushing off to consult team doctors.

"It never was as bad as some people said," Kosar said, "It was bothersome but it wasn't anything like that." "If you ask Bernie how he is, he won't ever say he's hurting," Carson said. "But we've discus-

sed it with the doctors and they clinch a division title. say he isn't in any careerthreatening situation. He just has had some different arm problems. When the time comes to

throw the ball, especially in a big game when we have to have it, Bernie comes through. We were much more concerned about him last week, health-wise than this week."
If Kosar was hurting last week, it certainly didn't show in Clevaland's 34-30 shootout with

touchdowns and no interceptions. He made all the right reads and all the right throws. "He's probably the smartest quarterback I've ever been around," Carson said. "Bernie's a warrior and he'll be there on

Sunday."

Buffalo. He connected on 20 of 29 passes for 235 yards, three

As will Elway, who hit one big play — a 37-yard TD pass to Vance Johnson — and took the Broncos on two long scoring drives in a 24-23 win over Pittsburgh. Had the Brincos not come back against the Steelers, Elway might have considered this a lost

prepared for starting in the NFL, even though coach Dan Reeves gave him the job. He even was booed at home and was the object of disaffection for comments he made about the

year. It was his worst statistically

since 1983, when he wasn't

pressure of playing in footballmad Denver. Still, the Broncos were 11-5, much better than last season's 8-8. They were the first team to

But they did it with a newly aggressive defense, a running attack - thanks to rookie Bobby Humphrey - and without a lot of theatrics or heroics by Elway.



Norman breaks record

GOLD COAST, Australia, Jan 12, (Reuter): World number one Greg Norman broke fellow Australian Rodger Davis's day-old course record when he shot a 63 in the second round of the Palm Meadows Cup

golf tournament today. Norman's 15-under-par leading total of 129 put him one shot ahead of defending champion American Curtis Strange, who added a 64, the previous course record, to his first round 66.

One shot further back after returning a 67 was first round leader Norman, who was followed by an adoring gallery, shot nine birdies and ended his round with an eagle. But wrong club selection resulted in

a bogey at the 10th and the three-putted the 14th for another bogey. 'The scoring may never slow down," said Norman. American Brad Drewer and Australian John Evans also made the most of perfect conditions and slow greens to shoot 64s.

Pakistani bowlers rise to the occasion

Wasim, Imran jolt Aussies

MELBOURNE, Jan 12, (Reuter): Wasim Akram, who -took two wickets with consecutive deliveries, and fellow Pakistan paceman Imran Khan rocked Australia on the opening day of the first cricket Test today.

Left-arm bowler Wasim captured three for 54 and his captain Imran took two for 36 as Australia slumped from 90 without loss to 148 for six after being put in to bat in cool, overcast condi-

Allan Border's team, unbeaten in their last 11 Tests, were 198 for six at the close after an unbroken seventh wicket stand of 50 between wrist spinner Peter Sleep, 23 not out, and wick-

etkeeper lan Healy, 33 not out. Pakistan, having failed to win a match during an unhappy build-up to the first of the three Tests, rose to the occasion with a telling performance that belied their problems.

They snapped up four wickets for eight runs at one stage, while teenage pace bowler Aaqib Javed contributed to Australia's collapse by claiming Steve Waugh as his prized first wicket in Test cricket.

Wasim and Imran troubled openers Geoff Marsh and Mark Taylor early in the day, beating both players several times outside off stump, but the chance of a quick breakthrough was lost when Javed Miandad at second slip dropped a simple chance offered by Taylor in the fourth

Marsh, playing his first Test since breaking his toe seven weeks ago, and Taylor struggled to 47 for no wicket at lunch and continued to build a useful base

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in the second session by extending their stand to 90.

Pakistan then struck four swift blows, starting when Wasim had Marsh caught behind by Salim Yousuf for 30. David Boon followed next delivery, leg before without offering a shot.

Taylor, despite suffering a nasty blow to his right arm from a Wasim delivery, completed a a fighting half century in 136 balls before mistiming a pull shot off Imran and being caught by

Dean Jones fell to his first ball,

NEW DELHI, Jan 12, (Reuter): Hailed as a

batting genius and then labelled a coward against fast bowling, Mohammad Azharuddin

has had a roller coaster ride to the top of Indian

Azharuddin reached a fresh peak with his

ppointment as India's captain for their tour of

Even then, the selectors admitted he was given

the job despite the fact he was on the verge of

being dropped from the squad that recently

istan, though only after winning a last-minute

place in the side for the first Test. He was origin-

ally overlooked but played when a toe injury

Azharuddin, 27 next month, scored 35 in each

place in the best way he knew — by capping a superb display of fielding with five catches in

Scintillating fielding in the covers is an aspect of cricket that has never deserted the trim, ath-

letic-looking bank official from Hyderabad even during his wretched batting form on India's tour of West Indies early last year.

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 12, (Reuter): Sri Lanka recovered from the embarrassment of being routed

for 103 by the youngsters of the Australia Cricket

Academy to draw the two-day match today. Having dismissing Sri Lanka cheaply on a damp

ruled out opener Raman Lamba.

Pakistan's first innings.

However, Azharuddin regained form in Pak-

New Zealand starting later this month.

edging an Imran leg-cutter to give Yousuf his second catch and

reduce Australia to 98 for four. Border and Waugh set about stabilising the innings but when they had put on 33, Yousuf pulled off a superb low, diving catch to dismiss Waugh for 20 off

Moving the ball both ways in the air, Wasim snatched the valuable wicket of Border for 24 when Miandad made the catch at third slip.

Australia could have been in

Malik not dropped a high chance in the gully from Sleep when the slow bowler was on eight.

Pakistan leg-spinner Abdul Qadir flew home yesterday because of an injured finger on his right hand.

Qadir will be replaced by 19year-old leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed but he was not in Melbourne in time to play in tahe first

test.
"The way his finger is swollen it doesn't look like he (Qadir) will be fit for two Tests and he would



His fielding and a cheerful disposition were factors that finally persuaded the selectors to change captains for the third time in four mon-

ths and hope for calm in a side plagued by

Azharuddin's good humour made him popular even with India's arch-rivals Pakistan.

In fact, former Pakistan captain Zaheer Abbas

helped to sort out his batting problems, and

Azharuddin hit a century and two half centuries in the last three Tests of the drawn series.

"Zaheer was real nice to me. I can never forget

his help. Now, I don't need to impart much power when hitting the ball," he told reporters

after succeeding Krishnamachari Srikkanth as

Azharuddin's ability to get help from even his

rivals was a factor that prompted the selectors to

"The way he picked up tips from Zaheer Abbas to get out of his batting tangle shows he has an open mind. He is an uncomplicated young cricketer, not controversial and com-

pletely committed to the game," said chief selec-

for Raj Singh.

Azharuddin managed to stay away from controversy in a period when players demanded

minutes before both fell to spinner Ranjith Madurasinghe, who finished with five for 95 off 41

With the pitch playing more comfortably today. Sri Lankan made 117 for one in their second innings

before the captains agreed to end play an hour early.

tain Ravi Ratnayeke (39 not out) shared an

unbeated second wicket stand of 102.

Asanka Gurusingha (66 not out) and acting cap-

controversy and poor results.

Wasim (left) and Imran: dominate first day's proceedings

"I was out of form, I wasn't bowling well, wasn't bowling by my own standards that I am famous for," Qadir said.

"Thanks to God that our young lad Mushtaq is already (coming) here. He is an equally very good bowler and my prayers will be with him."

Imran told reporters Qadir. the second most successful bowler in his country's Test history and a destroyer of sides on his day, would not be greatly missed.

"If he was someone we depended on, it would have been much more devastating for the team," lmran said. "From the team point of view it's not that big a blow." Qadir took only six wickets in the recent drawn four-Test series against India.

Imran ordered Qadir off the field during the drawn game against Queensland earlier this week after the 34-year-old dropped a catch.

AUSTRALIA first innings i. Marsh c Yousuf b Wash f. Taylor c Aaqib imran S. Wauch c Yousut b Aaqib Sleep not out...

Extras(lb-9 nb-7)

Fall of wickets. 1-90 2-90 3-98 4-98 5-131 To bat M. Hughes, C. Rackemann, T.

Alderman

Bowling to date: Imran 15-6-36-2, Wasim
26-8-54-3 (6nb), Aaqib 22-7-47-1, Waqar
12-3-27-0 (1nb), Tauseef 8-1-25-0
Pakistari: Imran Khan, Javed Mlandad,
Aamer Malik, Shoaib Moharimad, Mansoor Akhter, Ejaz Ahmed, Salim Yousuf,
Marie Akenn Turseef Ahmed Waner



which they were playing. But even he became embroiled in the aftermath of India's unhappy 1988 tour of the Caribbean. They lost the four-Test series 3-0 and skipper Dilip Vengsarkar accused several of his batsmen in an interview for feigning injury and illness to escape the relentless West Indian fast

Cricket writers said the batsmen included Azharuddin, who missed some tour matches

because of a groin injury.

Vengsarkar was replaced by Srikkanth after that tour, but Indian cricket continued to be plagued by humiliating defeats and bitter disputes until the tour of Pakistan.

There, youngsters Sanjay Manjrekar and Sachin Tendulkar showed the batting potential to replace veterans such as Vengsarkar and

Azharuddin offered further hope of an Indian

revival in the international arena, showing the sparkle and aggression of his early days. Azharuddin created history on his debut in the 1984-85 home series against England by hitting a century in each of his first three Tests, but then scored only four more in the next five



Wambergue gnawed away four minutes 36 seconds from the Finn's overwhelming lead in the 13th stage

Though Vatanen retains an advantage of more than one hour 19 minutes, he will be well aware that Wambergue has pulled back more than an hour in the past six days.



The Incredible team with other officials

Incredible win Rothmans Cup

INCREDIBLE Sports Club beat Goan Sporting I-0 in extra time to win the Rothmans Cup football tournament at the Sour grounds yesterday.

A very large crowd braved a chilly winter morning to witness a splendid game of soccer, organised by Salcete United, the sports wing of the Weekend Club.

The game started on a fast pace with both the sides having exchanges. A number of chances came both team's way but their forwards found it difficult to beat strong defensive fields.

Incredible's goalkeeper, Johnny Pereira, was in good form and made a number of excellent saves. The first half ended with neither giving way and the score remaining 0-0.

The second half saw action at a faster pace but forwards of both the teams again failed to avail their chances and the game ended scoreless in the normal time. Incredible clinched the match

in extra time when Rui Braganza created an easy apportunity for his skipper Teddy to score. Aref Essa, manager of Roth-mans International, the chief guest, praised the standard of the

game and also gave away the Cajetan Godinho was declared Man of the Match.

Incredible: John Pereira, Antao Rogtao, Tonie D'Silva, Frankie Ragtao, Theodors Pinto, Anthony Fernandez, Anthony D'Costa, Redualdo Braganza, Anthony D'Costa, Rui Braganza, Andrew Fernandez and Albert

Goan Sporting: Robert Lobo, Luis C. Gonsalves, Laxikant Shirodkhar, Alvaro Antao, Alex Fernandes Cajetan, Godinhe, Felix Pereira (captain) Reynald Fernandez, Joaquim Antao, Christopher Fernandez, Roque Fernandez and Vicent Reverado.

Referee: Peter Monteiro, Lin-Reuben D'costa.



Skipper Teddy (right) receives the winner's trophy for incredible.



Sporting captain Pereira collects the runners-up trophy.



An action shot of the match.



Referee Peter receives a prize (Photos by Javed Basra).

pitch, the Academy extended their overnight 162 for four to 348—a lead of 245— with Victorian Craig White compiling an impressive 884 in 242 minutes. White and South Australian Cameron Williams (54) shared a fifth wicket partnership of 115 in 126 2450281/2 Some like it



"We are getting applications virtually every day from coaches interested in working in West Germany. Many of them have not left the East yet," Loecken told Reuters. Kuwait bridge player dies

Exodus may threaten

East Germany's future

BONN, Jan 12, (Reuter): East Germany's future as a world power in sport could be under threat as more and more coaches and sports scientists leave for the West after the opening of the Berlin Wall, West

German sports experts said yesterday.

The exodus of East Germans, estimated at nearly 1,800 a day, is beginning to drain the state of coaches, doctors and training experts

Although the majority of today's top stars have stayed in the East, experts believe the country's successful breeding of talent for tomorrow may be weakened in the long-term.

East Germany, which took the second highest number of gold medals at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, has earned much of its success by digging out

raw, talented youngsters from small clubs and refining them into stars through intensive training at pressure-cooker sports schools.

"East Germany is running the risk of seeing its youth development programme weakened if it continues to lose coaches at this rate," said researcher Manfred Loecken of the West German Sports Federation (DSB).

DR MARCEL ZANANIRI, one of the most respected bridge players in Kuwait, died on Wednesday night. The Messilah Ladies Bridge, the Hubara Centre

working at grass-root level in local clubs.

Bridge Club and Regency Bridge Club has decided to

cancel all their weekly games scheduled for today and

According to one of the bridge players, he was like a father to all of them and was loved by all the bridge players.

And some like it thick Now we've got PAN













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